

THE  
GORDONS OF KNOCKESPOCK

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A GENEALOGICAL ACCOUNT  
OF  
THE FAMILY OF  
GORDON OF KNOCKESPOCK.

BY  
CAPTAIN DOUGLAS WIMBERLEY,  
SOMETIME  
OF THE 79TH OR CAMERON HIGHLANDERS.

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## P R E F A C E.

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THE family history of the Gordons of Knockespock is an interesting one, inasmuch as the lands giving them their designation have been held by lairds of the same family name continuously since they were acquired by William Gordon, who was *in* Knockespock in 1535, down to the present day.

But these lairds have not all been of one branch of the Gordon name. The earliest were sprung from Alexander Gordon of Essie, a son of Jock of Scurdargue ; then followed for a short time one that I take to have been descended from James Gordon of Blelack, a son of Alexander Gordon of Tillyminate, and elder brother of the first laird of Lesmoir, but the wife of this laird of Knockespock appears to have been the daughter of a previous laird of the old family.

Not many years later another laird, the first of perhaps a third line of Gordons, is found, or rather, as it seems to me, the lands were acquired by a cadet of the first family, who had recently become, or became, laird of Glenbucket, and was father of the famous and valiant old soldier “John Gordon of Glenbucket.” This line failed to retain Knockespock long, and very early in the 18th century this property was sold to a descendant of Gordon of Terpersie, a cadet of Lesmoir. From him the present laird is come.

To trace the succession and descent through fifteen lairds has been no easy matter, but the result may interest those who care to follow the history of landed property and its successive owners.

D. W.

Inverness, 1903.



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Knockespock (Cnoc Easbuig), Bishop's hill, or Lurgandespock (Luirgean d'Easbuig), Bishop's shank or ridge, is situate in the Correen Hills, Aberdeenshire. There can be no doubt that from very early times lands under the latter name were church lands belonging to the See of Aberdeen.

A dispute took place between Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen, and John of Forbes as to these lands in 1387 (Ant. Aberdeen and Banff, II., 400, and IV., 378-380). It would seem that they were then a part of Terpersey, then called Tirepresso (Ant. A. and B., V. 537); whereas, what is now known as Terpersey or Terpersie is in the parish of Tullynessle on the southern slope of the Correen Hills, but the present lands of Knockespock proper are and have been from time immemorial in the parish of Clatt, and on the northern slope of the same range.

A summary of the proceedings taken in connection with the above dispute is given under heading of the parish of Tullynessle in Ant. Aberdeen and Banff, IV., 537, which is as follows:—"A portion of the land of Tirepresso called Lurgandespok was in dispute between the Bishop of Aberdeen and the Knight of Forbes about the year 1390." It was, however, rather earlier than this that it commenced, for in Vol. II., 400, of the same book we find:—"In the year 1387, John Keth, Lord of Inverugry, appears as one of the arbiters in the dispute regarding the lands of Lurgyndaspokis (Knockespock) between Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen, and John of Forbes, lord of that ilk."—(Reg. Episcop. Aberdon., I., 176).

The summary mentioned continues: — “On behalf of the Bishop it was urged that the land that Forbes deams [as] his of Tirepressy is called Lurgandaspopk, that is to say, the Bishop's leg, the whilk name was nocht likly it suld haf war it nocht the Bishop's.”

“Item Tirepressy is and ay has been tua dauach of land in the Bishop's rentale, and to the King's wering, and war that land fra it that Forbes clemys, that is to say Lurgandaspopk, the lave war nocht a dauach and a half, quherfor his cleemeis is nocht like to be richtwise.”

Full details respecting the marches are given in Ant. A. and B., IV., 378, in a note, which is of sufficient interest to be given at length:—

“On 6th April 1391, King Robert III., by a letter under quarter seal, made Sir John Gordoun, Knight, his justiciary within the shire for perambulating the marches between the lands of Tirepressy and Tulyangous, belonging to Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen, and the lands of Forbes, belonging to John of Forbes (Reg. Episc. Aberd. I., 187). The dispute was settled on 5 July 1591 by a mutual agreement that the land of Lurgandaspopk between the burns of Condiland and Coeburne from head to foot, and the lands of Tulyeoscheny should be common between the Bishop and the Knight of Forbes during their lives: that the woods also should be in common, so that either might give his own proper men leave to cut and hew timber: that each should have his own proper forester: that the fines of the Bishop's men cutting timber without the Bishop's leave should belong to the Bishop: that the fines of the men of the Knight of Forbes cutting timber without his leave should belong to him: and that the fines of strangers should be equally divided between the Bishop and the Knight in whose soever's Court they should be convicted.”—(Reg. Episc. Aberd., I., 188-9.)

At page 379 of Vol. IV. Ant. A. and B., we find—“Reasons are given in for information of those perambulating the boundaries between the lands of the Bishop of Aberdeen and the Lord of Forbes.”

“The 1st is that ‘the land that Forbes claims as his of Tirepressy is called Lurgandaspopk, i.e., the Bishop's leg, the whilk name war nocht likly it suld haf, war it nocht the Bishopis.’”

“Reference is made to Forbes' charter which contains marches betwixt his land of Forbes.

and the Bishop's land of Tulynestyn, which are set forth."

"Tirepressy is and ay has been tua dauach of land in the Bishop's rental and to the King's wering, and war that land fra it, that Forbes clemys, that is to say Lurgyndaspok, the lave war nocht a dauach and a half, quharefor his clemis is nocht like to be richtwise."

"That Forbes' father would have claimed it, had he known of any such right."

Other reasons are then given, based upon various known marches. Then follows:—

"The land of Lurgandaspol has been always in the Bishop's possession and the Kirk of Aberdene, Sanct Margaret and Sanct Machare has been sesit tharof ever sin the Kings foundit the Kirk of Abirden and gaf that land tharto, and never was distriblit bot now."

"Item the mere betwix Forbes and the Bischope upon the side of Clat schire is the burn of Cannys as it entris the Bolgy, and sua gangand up to its heid, and this is contenynt al in Forbes' charter."

"Item Sir Jone Broun, Knycht, held whilom the landis of Tirepressy of the Bischope and the Kirk of Aberdene, and that time he had his schep cotis and schepheperdis housis upon the lands of Lurgandaspol as portenances of the lands of Tirepressy."—(Reg. Episc. Aberd. I. 248-9.)

It seems a fair inference from the above that there were two properties in the Correen Hills, Church lands belonging to the Bishop of Aberdeen about 1390, viz., Tirepressy and Tillyangus, and that Lurgyndaspok, the situation of which is described, was a part of Tirepressy, or pertinents thereto, as mentioned in the time of Sir Jone Broun, holding of the Bishop. The march between Forbes and the Bischope upon the side of Clattshire is said to have been the burn of Cannys as it enters the Bolgy: this burn, I presume, must be the one that runs past Druminnor, and that its confluence with the Bogie (Inbhir) gave its name to the ridge on which the old castle of the Forbeses was built.

The boundaries between the parishes of Tullynessle and Clatt may have been altered during the 15th century: by 1511 Knockespock proper was in the latter parish.

The yearly rental is given for that year in Ant. A. and B., IV., 486-7, from Reg. Episc. Aberd., I., 360-364. It runs:—

"The yearly rental of the shire of Clat, containing 27 plough-gates, amounted to £91 10s. 4d. for fermes, 4s. and 4d. for bondages, 17 bolls of meal, 8 bolls of malt, 24 bolls of oats, one pig,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  marts, 24 sheep, 8 kids, 12 dozen of capons,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  dozen house fowls, 8 dozen moor fowls, and 2 stones of cheese. The grassums amounted to £79 6s. 8d."

"The Kirktown, extending to 4 plough-gates, was leased to 8 tenants. In the burgh there were 4 burgage tenements, each of the sowing of 2 bolls of barley. Nether Knockespock contained 3 plough-gates; Tulyangouse, 2; Newton or Newbigging, 2; Tulyauch, 1; Tolly (or Towie), 4; Upper Knockespock, 2; Auchmanye, 2; Auchlyne, 4; Clovath, 2; and the Hauch of Bogy (or Blairindinny), 1."

A large proportion of the above is now included in the estate of Knockespock, and to explain the reference to burgage tenements, it may be mentioned that Bishop Elphinstone, the great benefactor of the Northern Counties of Scotland during his Episcopate of 31 years (1483-1514), had in 1501 obtained the erection of the town of Clatt into a burgh of barony. The summary of the charter is as follows:—"The King [James IV.] for his singular favour towards William, Bishop of Aberdeen, and also for the entertainment [hospitio] of his lieges journeying in the northern parts of the Kingdom, infest and erected the town of Clatt pertaining to the said Bishop into a free burgh of barony in perpetuity. He granted also to the inhabitants the power of buying and selling, also that they should be burgesses; and the Bishop of Aberdeen should have the power of electing bailies: further, that they should have a cross and a market on Tuesday in each week, and public sales or fairs yearly on St Moluch's Day, and through 8 days of the same. Granted at Edinburgh, 16 June 1501."—(R.M.S., II., No. 2588.)

William Gordoun, Bishop of Aberdeen did much to develop the Church lands of the Diocese by granting long leases and feu charters, whatever the motives may have been that induced him to do so.

A charter by him with consent of the Dean and Chapter of Aberdeen was granted in 1556, by which "he demised in feu ferme to Mr John Fraser, his servitor and relative, and to Marjorie Gordoun, his spouse, the lands of Towie, in the shire of Clatt, &c.—At Aberdeen, 4 Feb. 1556."

Another charter was "granted by him, with

consent as above to Alexander Fraser, natural and lawful son of Mr John Fraser, burgess of Aberdeen, his heirs, &c., of the town and lands of Towie in the parish of Clatt, Sheriffdom of Aberdeen: which the said John resigned in favour of the said Alexander, the free tenement being reserved to himself and the said Marjorie, to be held of the Bishop in feu ferme."—Redendo, &c., &c.

In both cases, "the office of bailie to the Bishop of Aberdeen was reserved to George, Earl of Huntlie, Lord Gordon and Badyenoch, with precept of sasine directed to Alexander Gordon of Knockaspec.—At Aberdeen, 16 March 1559." Both these charters were confirmed at Holyrood House, 29 April 1582 or 1585. There seems to be a doubt as to the year. See footnote where the the charter is given. (R.M.S., IV., No. 815.)

Meantime, in 1585, we find mention of William Gordoun, designed "in Knockespock," the first of the old family of Gordons of Knockespock, and father of the Alexander Gordoun of Knockaspec mentioned in the above precept of sasine, dated 1559.

This is the earliest mention I have found of a Gordoun of Knockespock in the Register of the Great Seal.

It may be noted that the same Bishop granted a "Charter, dated 12 July 1556, of the adjoining lands of Terpersie, with others, viz., Warakstoun and Bogyshallach in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen to William Gordoun, son of James Gordoun, first laird of Lesmoir, and to Margaret Ogilvy, his spouse, which was confirmed at Stirling, 18 August 1585." (R.M.S., V., No. 877.) The lands of Knockespock have been held by Gordons since 1555.

As the stronghold of the Forbeses was on an eminence projecting into Strathbogie, it was no doubt politic to extend the borders of the Gordons towards Alford and the Don above Alford on the flanks of the Forbes country.

The various and frequent troubles that arose in Scotland, often in connection with either changes of religion or of modes of Church government, between the latter part of the 16th century and the end of the 17th—a period when toleration of the weaker party for the time being was almost unknown—were among the chief causes that led to a frequent displacement of old families, and their place as landowners being taken by others. In Aberdeenshire it happened in several cases from about the middle

of the 16th century that the family losing lands and the one that came in for them in their stead were both Gordons, and thus not a very few properties have been held continuously or nearly so by lairds of that name, but who did not succeed as heirs through blood relationship, but acquired the same either through forfeitures, or wadsets, or purchase.

Between 1560 and 1660, many old Roman Catholic families had a very hard time of it, notably the Gordons of Gicht, being excommunicated, prosecuted, fined, and banished "for religion." Many lost their estates or only retained a very small portion. Again, during the long struggles between Episcopacy (or "Prelacy," as it was called), and Presbyterianism (or "Presbytery"), many northern lairds, especially in Aberdeenshire, who had become Protestants, were zealous for Episcopacy, and readily took up arms for the Crown: they contributed lavishly out of their means, and often beyond their means, raising, equipping, and maintaining troops in the King's service, and many of them before, some after the Restoration, found their estates so encumbered with wadsets, and their debts so heavy, that their lands were apprised or valued from them to their creditors, or else their heirs found that they must sell them to pay off encumbrances, while not a few were forfeited both in the period above mentioned and up to the middle of the 18th century. Among the sufferers from such causes were the Huntly family and a good many other Gordons.

The Book of Annual Renters of 1653 shows the deplorable indebtedness of a very large proportion of the lairds of Aberdeenshire even by that date; not all, perhaps, from outlay on war-like preparations, for probably some of them borrowed to speculate in land and buy up encumbrances; and many must have had to pay up heavily owing to their having granted bonds of caution in security for the good behaviour or appearance when cited of relatives and friends, as well as for themselves, and become liable in payment. It is certain that many wealthy merchants lent money largely to land-owners, and, on failure to obtain interest due, took proceedings to have the lands adjudged to themselves. Other parties then often purchased from them estates or parts of estates, which the old owners lost. The apprising of lands in such cases recorded in the Register of the Great Seal afford ample evidence of this state of matters.

The lands of Knockespock have been held by

lairds of the name of Gordon continuously since 1535, but not all of the same stock; and both Knoekespock and Terpersie conjointly by lairds of that name and of one family since the beginning of the 18th century; but it is very difficult to get proof of the nature and dates of all the various transactions that led to the changes of ownership.

The first Gordons of Knockespock were descended from Alexander of Essie, son of "Jock of Seurdargue," and so were of the same branch as the Gordons of Buckie—(Balb. MS., p. 63.) They owned Knoekespock from 1535 to about 1640.

For about the next 60 years it is difficult to determine to which the lairds of Knockespock or parts of it belonged. The eldest son of the laird of the old family is said to have died in France in 1643 (Balb. MS., p. 64); but the latter's son, Robert, got sasine in Clatt, &c., in 1648. Most, however, of the property seems to have gone partly to a George Gordon in 1642 (of what family is uncertain), and mainly about 20 years later to a John Gordon, who became laird of Glenbuket: perhaps these Gordons belonged to three different branches of the house, perhaps not.

The later Knockespocks were cadets of the Gordons of Terpersie, and acquired the estate from a *kinsman* about 1705 (Family Pedigree). One of this family purchased Terpersie about twenty years after it was forfeited, and its laird, Charles Gordon, had been executed at Carlisle. Knockespock and Terpersie have remained in the same family, the former since 1705, the latter from about 1765, to the present day.

## FIRST LINE.

## TABLE OF THEIR DESCENT.

of Essie, son of Jock of Scurdargue by Henault Macleod.	John of Essie, eldest son: he sold Boddam and bought Buckie.	daughter of Leslie of Balquhain.
1. Alexander of Buckie, Constable of the Bog o' Gicht, anc. of the Buckie family.	3. WILLIAM, I. of Knocke.	2. Thomas of Auchenspock, died probably about 1557.
		ALEXANDER, died probably II. of Knockespock.
		JAMES, died probably III. of Knockespock.
		WILLIAM, died later IV. of Knockespock.
		JAMES, mentioned as living 16th younger of Knockespock.
mentioned as eldest son of deceased James Gordon, appt. of when	he got sasine in Clatt, &c.	ROBERT, 16th May 1648.

## WILLIAM GORDON, I. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

WILLIAM GORDON, first laird of Knockespock by repute, was the third son of John Gordon of Essie by — Spens, daughter and heretrix of Boddam, in the parish of Insch (Balb. MS., p. 57), and grandson of Alexander of Essie by Christian, daughter of Leslie of Balquhain.

John is said to have sold Boddam and bought Buckie (Balb. MS., *ibid*), but perhaps he sold only part of Boddam, for Alexander Gordon of Boddam is mentioned as a witness to a charter granted by the Earl of Huntly in 1553 (R.M.S., III., No. 1295). This Alexander may have been William's eldest son. Again, William Spens of Boddam was witness to charters in 1527, 1535, and 1536 (R.M.S.); and John Spens was served heir to his father, William of Boddam, in 1579, and Alexander Spens, heir to John, his father, in 1586. Perhaps John Gordon of Essie's wife was heretrix of only part of Boddam, which may have been sold to a Spens, who owned the other part.

William of Knockespock's eldest brother was Alexander of Buckie, Constable of the Bog o' Gieht. His next elder brother was Thomas of Auchinheives, goodman of Craicullie; and his younger brother's name was David (Balb. MS., p. 57). A daughter of Gordon of Buckie is said to have married Donald Og Macpherson of Cluny tempore King James I. (History of Family of Macpherson of Cluny apud Douglas, Baronage).

William, first laird of Knockespock, married Margaret, a daughter of Duguid of Auchinhove, probably of Robert Duguid of Auchinhove, who was one of an assize in 1503, and gave a bond of man rent to the Earl of Huntly in 1536. By her he had issue two sons, *viz.* :—

- I. ALEXANDER, afterwards of Knockespock.
- II. HENRY or HARRY, who died without leaving heirs (Balb. MS., p. 63).

The following extract refers to this laird; and it will be observed that he is designed as "*in*" Knockaspak: it is probable that, as was then common, he held the lands only in lease:—

"William Gordoun *in* Knoccaspak was present with William Lyoun of Comalegry, Patrick Gordoun *in* Auchmanye, Sir Alexander Cristison, Chaplain; William Fola, and Alexander Andree at a Court held at Rayne by the Bishop of Aberdeen in 1535, when James Hill in Fingeis was pursued by the laird of Johnstone and

Caskieben for using injurious and malicious language to him, viz.—‘I pray God that the ayres of Caskiebenne never prospere for the thinges ye do to me,—speaking of the said laird and his heirs.’ (Ant. Aberdeen and Banff, III., p. 430.)

The first laird seems to have been deceased by about the end of 1557.

#### ALEXANDER GORDON, II. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

ALEXANDER, second laird of Knockespock, succeeded his father.

He married, according to the Balbithan MS., p. 63, “a daughter of Baillie of Ardneidlie, lady Aswanly.” Baillie’s designation is given as “of Ardnilly” in Records of Aboyne, p. 179. The place mentioned is, I presume, Ardnilly, on the Spey. It was, I believe, formerly in the parish of Keith, is now in that of Boharm; had been part of the possessions of the Earls of Huntly, but had been dispensed to the family of Baillie, and later was subfeued by them to the Mel-drums of Eden. Thomas Baillie of Ardneidlie seems to have married Katharine Gordon, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Drumlin, of the Buckie family, as her second husband. These Baillies were cadets of the Lamington family. (See Balb. MS., p. 57, and Records of Aboyne, p. 179.) Knockespock’s wife was probably the relict of a Calder of Aswanley. Thomas Bailye of Arnely was a witness to a charter granted by the Earl of Huntly to John Gordoun, *then* Ogilvy, in 1545 (R.M.S., II., 3261).

The 2nd laird of Knockespock had by his wife, Ardneidlie’s daughter, 4 sons and 3 daughters, viz. :—

- I. JAMES, afterwards of Knockespock.
- II. Mr Alexander Gordon, burgess in Elgin, married (1st) Marjory Grant, (2nd) Anne, daughter of the laird of Strathawen.
- III. Robert *in Clatt*, mentioned as “*in Towie*” in 1590 (Reg. Priv. Co., IV., p. 473).
- IV. John of Bouges (or Boigges), Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen, who married — Arbuthnott (Balb. MS., p. 64).
  1. A daughter, married William Gordoun of Tulliangus.
  2. A daughter.
  3. A daughter. (Mostly from Balb. MS., p. 63.)

Whether the first laird, so called, ever acquired in property the lands of Knockespock or

only held them on lease or in liferent, his son got a charter of part of Nether Knockespock.

For, or 28 May 1558, Bishop William Gordoun granted “ $\frac{1}{3}$  part of Nether Knokespok in feu ferm to Alexander Gordoun of Knokespok for yearly payment of 5s. and 4d., a quarter of a mart, a mutton, six poultry, two capons, a boll of oats with the fodder, 20d. for bondage silver, 4d. for services, 10s. and 8d. for grassum, 20d. for augmentation of rental, doubling these payments on the entry of each heir, and giving 3 suits yearly at the Bishop's 3 Head Courts” (Reg. Great Seal Lib., XLVI., pp. 458-9, given in Ant. A. and B., IV., 499). I have failed to find this charter in the new edition of the Reg. Mag. Sig.

This laird had a precept of sasine directed to him by the Bishop as “Alexander Gordoun of Knockaspec,” as already mentioned.

He had as near neighbours Gordoun of Tullianguis, a cadet of Craig, whose son, William, married one of his daughters; Gordoun of Auchmenzie, a near relative of the same family; and Gordoun of Terpersie, of the Lesmoir family. I think it probable that he took part in the battle of Tulliangus in 1571, and that some of his family were guests at the unfortunate and tragic banquet at Druminnor.

Mr Alexander Gordon, burgess in Elgin, the second son, married, according to the Ballibithan MS., (1st) Marjory Grant, with whom he begat two sons, James and Hugh Gordons. After his first wife's death he married (2nd) Anne Gordon, the laird of Strathown's daughter.

Theforesaid Alexander Gordon had also a natural son, gotten with a gentlewoman of the surname of Stuart, called William Gordon of Menmoir, who married Jannet Grant, with whom he begat four sons, viz.: — Alexander, Patrick, Harry, and John Gordons. He married to his second wife Grant of Auchorachan's daughter.

Mr C. Elphinstone Dalrymple had added respecting the above-named Patrick—

“The second son, Patrick or Peter, married Janet Gordon of Cluny, and had a son, Charles who married Rachel Gordon, heiress of Abergeldie, and from them come the present house of Abergeldie.”

“Johnne Gordoun of Boigges,” or “John Gordoun of Bouges,” with “Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen” added, is several times mentioned in the Register of the Privy Council at the end

of the 16th and beginning of the 17th centuries. I think he is the same person as John Gordoun of Tulligreig. The author of the Balbithan MS. says, at p. 64, that "John Gordon of Bouges, Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen, married — Arbuthnott, with whom he begat two sons viz., Thomas and Harry Gordons, who was killed in Germany"; and the former, according to "C.E.D." (Mr Charles Elphinstone Dalrymple), married a daughter of John Gordon of Pitlurg: this mentioned also under Pitlurg in Balb. MS., p. 31.

There is a charter in favour of this John Gordoun, granted in 1590, viz.:—Charter granting in feu farm heritably to John Gordoun, brother german of James G. of Knockespak, his heirs and assigns whomsoever, all and whole the town and lands of Kirkhill and Mostoun, with the outsets, parts, pendicles, &c., lying within the Abbacy of Lundoris and Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, to be had and held of us, &c. Reddendo, yearly, £10 in money as old ferme, and 20s. in augmentation, with dues and services, a duplicand on entry of each heir.—Sealed at Halirud, 17 Dec. 1590. (Reg. Great Seal, XXXVII., No. 452; Antiq. A. and B., IV., pp. 533-4.)

A century later there is a special service of a Francis Gordon as nearest heir of his father. Hugh Gordon of Kirkhill, in the town and lands of Kirkhill and Mostoun, with the tolls, &c., of the markets and the manor place, according to charters of confirmation under the Great Seal, granted to the said Hugh Gordon of Kirkhill, his heirs and assigns, dated 8 July 1664. (Antiq. A. and B., IV., pp. 534-5.) This Hugh was probably a grandson of the said John.

John Gordon of Bogis and Helen Arbuthnott, his spouse, got sasine in Tilligreig, 28 August 1603. He again got sasine in the same, 3 July 1604; and in Kinnelar on 6 July following; also "two other sasines," of which no further note was given me. John G. of Tulligreig got sasine in Lentushe [parish of Rayne] 8 May 1607; John G., portioner of Tilligreig, sasine in Tilligreig east, 3 December 1608; and John G., Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen, in  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Tilligreig same day.

In the Register of the Privy Council the name of "Johnne G. of Boiges, Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen, occurs along with that of James Gordoun of Knokespic and others as being required to get "sureties for their having each

to pay £30 for their escheat goods, they having failed to pay sums due in the taxation of their goods."—28 Dec. 1603 (Reg. Privy Co., V., p 772).

Very little information respecting this second laird seems available, nor anything to show the date of his death, except that it was probably before 1589, when his son, James, is designed "of Knockespek."

#### JAMES GORDON, III. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

JAMES, 3rd laird of Knockespock, succeeded his father, and became the owner of considerable landed estates.

He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of William Gordoun of Arradoul, the second son of Alexander Gordoun of Buckie by the Lady Innes, and his second cousin, by whom he had issue 3 sons and 3 daughters, viz. :—

- I. WILLIAM, afterwards of Knockespock.
- II. Captain John Gordon, married a daughter of John Gordoun of Ardlogie, sister of Col. Nathaniel Gordon (Balb. MS., p. 17).
- III. Mr Thomas Gordon.

1. Beatrice, married Donald Farquharson of Inch Marnoch, better known as "of Tulligarmont" or "of Castleton and Monaltrie" (Balb. MS., p. 64).
2. A daughter, married to the Baron of Braichley (Ibid.).
3. A daughter, married to Mr George Gordon, Cracullie (Ibid.). See "Rec. of Aboyne," pp. 240 and 250. He resigned the lands of Knok in favour of William G. of Knockespock in 1619, and granted a reversion of Craigeullie to the Marquis of Huntly in 1620.

James Gordon and Margaret, his spouse, got a charter of Fochabers in 1590:—

"The King confirmed a charter of Alexander Seytoun, Lord of Urquhart, one of the Lords of Session [by which he confirmed to James Gordoun of Knockaspock and Margaret Gordoun, his spouse, daughter and heiress of the deceased William Gordoun of Foquhabirs, the lands and barony of Foquhabirs, viz., Wester and Eister F., also the lands of Arddiarroch in the priory or priorate of Pluskardine, regality of Urquhart Sheriffdom of Elgin and Forres, which the said Margaret resigned in person in favour of herself and the said James. To be held by the said

James and Margaret, and the longer liver in conjunct fee, &c. Reddendo, &c., &c. At Aberdeen, 30 April 1590]. Confirmed at Halirud Hous, 17 Dec. 1590." (R.M.S., IV., No. 1800.)

The same James Gordon of Knockaspak had some land in the burgh of Elgin, which is mentioned as bounding some other lands in a charter of lands granted by one, Alexander Young, in that burgh. Confirmed at Falkland, 3 July 1591. (R.M.S., IV., No. 1893.)

A few years later he had a charter under the Great Seal, erecting the town of Fochabers into a Burgh of Barony, with a weekly market and 4 fairs yearly (Rec. of Aboyne, p. 179):—

"The King erected the town of Fochabers pertaining in feu ferm to James Gordoun of Knockespak, in the Lordship and Regality of Wrquhart, Sheriffdom of Elgin and Forres, into a Burgh of Barony, granting to the inhabitants the power of buying and selling, loading and unloading ships, barges, and boats at the port of Spey, and likewise to the same James and to his heirs to create burgesses, bailies, &c., with power of having a market cross and holding a weekly market and 4 fairs yearly, viz., on St Mary's, 8 December; Our Lady's Day in Lent, 25 March; First Lady Day in Harvest, 14 August; and latter Lady Day in Harvest, 4 September. Confirmed at Halyrude houis, 10 February 1598-9." (R.M.S., V., 857.)

Immediately after Fochabers was erected into a free barony, the laird of Knockespock arranged an excambion of lands with the Marquis of Huntly.

"At Halirudhouse, 28 Dec. 1600.

"The King confirmed a charter of George, Marquis of Huntly, Earl of Enzie, &c. [by which for fulfilment of a contract between himself and Lady Henriet Stewart, Marchioness of Huntly, his spouse, on the one part, and James Gordoun of Knokaspok for himself, and taking burden on himself for Margaret Gordoun, his spouse, on the other part, of present date, in excambion for the lands and barony of Fochabiris, and for sums of money paid to him, he demitted in feu ferme to the said James, his heirs male and assigns whomsoever, without reversion, the lands of Tullich, town and lands of Mure, its mill and lands, brewery croft, town and lands of Ballater, boat, coble seat, and scheling, with salmon fishing on the water of Dee from the entry of the burn of Glencold-

stone, and up the said burn, and also from the said inver or entry up the Dee to an merche of propertie distinguisend the said lands of Tullich, &c., from the lands of Braichlie or Glenmucke, quhil it come foranent the merche of the proper landis of Knok, with woods, groves, common pasture, foggage, turfs, &c., &c., in the whole forest of Morwing and in Culblean to the torrent of Auldenleith, in paroch of Tullich: the lands of Knok and Dalfour, with multures, &c., with fishings of salmon in the water of Dee, in paroch of Glenmuk. Reddendo in all, £22 13s. 4d., a duplikeand of said sum on entry of heirs, &c.]. (The above is much abridged here.) "Witnesses—William Gordoun of Gicht, John Gordoun of Newtoun, George Gordoun of Terpersie, John Gordoun in Ryinie, and Alexander Middletoun, notary public.—At Huntlie, 6 June 1599. (R.M.S., V., No. 1120.)

In the Rental of the Lordship of Huntly for 1600, James Gordoun of Knockespock is entered as Tenant of Tullich, Ballater, Muir, and Knock, and paying Fewe maill £22 13s. 4d. He was also tenant of the Marquis of Huntly in the small farm of Elrick, in the Cabrach; ane pleuch, payis yeirlie maill Fourtie markis, Buttir ane stain. (Ibid.)

Mention is also found of James Gordoun of Knockaspeck as a member of an assize (or jury), of which James Gordoun of Lesmoir was Chancellor, when various lands belonging to William Cuming of Ernsyde were valued from him in satisfaction of his debts to many creditors, mostly on bonds. Four of these bonds had been assigned to James Forbes of Tolmadeis, and two others to Arthur, Lord Forbes, and by the latter to the same James Forbes; and in consequence Over and Nather Linkwood and sundry other lands were valued to said James Forbes for £3116 13s. 4d. in payment of debt, and for £155 16s. 8d. for fee to William Cuik, Messenger Sheriff (or Sheriff's Officer) in these parts. Grant of said lands confirmed by the King at Edinburgh, 31 December 1617. (R.M.S., V., No. 1747.)

In the Register of the Privy Council, James Gordoun of Knockaspeck's name is found in several occasional entries from 1589 to 1624, and also the names of his sons.

James G. of Knockaspeck had to find caution, along with Patrick Leith of Harthill, in 2000 merks for good behaviour among a very large number of Northlandmen—30 April 1589. (Reg. P. C., IV., p. 379.)

A bond, registered in Edinburgh, of 500 merks by James G. of Knockaspeck as cautioner for Robert Gordon in Towie [i.e., Towie of Clatt], his brother, that he will not harm George Leslie in Tailzeauch, or James Leslie there. Subscribed at Knockespeck, 20 March, Regd. 23 March 1590. (Reg. P. C., IV., p. 473.)

Caution found by James G. of Knockespic for George Gordoun of Coclacharie that James and George Leslies in Tailzeauch shall be harmless of him under pains of letters raised against him.—Edinb., 10 Aug. 1590. (R.P.C., IV., p. 520.)

James G. of Knockespic, cautioner for Johnn Gordoun of Allachin, Walter Barclay of Drumdalgy, and others in 500 merks each to answer before the Council in 10 November next to a complaint of William Paxtoune.—Holyrood, 29 September 1590. (R.P.C., IV., p. 536.)

The next abstract refers probably to John of Bouges, brother of this laird of Knockespock.

Johnne Gordoun of Knockespak and several other Gordouns to be denounced rebels for no appearance to answer to a complaint of Mr Duncan Forbes of Forneidlie for an attack made upon his tenants on 20 January preceding.—Edinb., 10 March 1590. (R.P.C., IV., p. 595.)

James Gordoun of Knockaspact, as principal, and Walter Barclay of Drumbelgie [*sic*], as surety, had to find caution in 500 merks not to assist the Earls of Huntly and Errol and others guilty of the Jesuit and Spanish Conspiracy, or of the murder of the Earl of Murray. James G. of Knockespeck's brother, Robert, had to find caution in 500 merks at same time.—Aberdeen, 3 March 1592-3. (R.P.C., V., p. 46.)

James G. of Knockaspeck was surety for Walter Leslie, burgess of Aberdeen, in 500 merks not to harm Mr Thomas Gairdin of Blairstoun, Commissary Clerk of Aberdeen.—At Aberdeen, 5 March 1592-3. (R.P.C., V., 48.)

“Johnne Gordoun, brother of James G. of Knockespak,” was one of several Gordons denounced rebels for having failed to appear touching the observations of “peas and quietness in the country.”—Holyrud House, 12 Apr. 1593. (R.P.C., V., 67.)

James Gordoun of Knockaspec was one of very many north countrymen summoned to appear before the King and Council to answer for good rule and loyalty, 12 June 1594. (R.P.C., V., 148.)

James Gordoun of Lesmurdie was cautioner for Alex. Gordoun of Lesmoir in £2000 not to

harm James Gordoun of Knockespak.—Subscribed at Lesmoir, 12 October 1600.—Edinb., 27 Oct. 1690. (R.P.Co., VI., 667.)

Mr George Bissat, as principal, and Abacok Bissat, writer, as surety for him, for Johnne Gordoun of Boiggis, Sheriff-Depute of the shire of Aberdeen; James Gordoun of Knockespak, George Bissat of Eastfield, and Andro Bissat, ffar thereof, that they will pay within 40 days to the Treasurer £30 for their escheat goods fallen into the King's hands through their being denounced rebels for non-payment of certain sums due by them for the taxatiouns of their lands in the shire of Aberdeen.—28 December 1603. (R.P.Co., VI., 772.)

George Calder of Torrone was surety for James G. of Knockespak not to slay any salmon fish in forbidden time on the Dee or Don or branches thereof. The bond subscribed at Knok, 15 Sept., 1604. One of the witnesses is John Gordoun, son of William Gordoun of Tillyangus. Regd. at Perth, 26 September 1604. (R.P.Co., VII., 569.) Knock, near Ballater, at that time belonged to the laird of Knockespock

James G. of Knokespak, cautioner for John Gordoun of Fintray in 300 merks not to reset or intercommune with Patrick Butter of Maritoun during his rebellion: one of the witnesses, John Gordoun, son of John G. of Drymmeis.—Subscribed at Aberdeen, 30 November 1605. Regd. at Edinb., 5 December 1605. (R.P.Co., VII., p. 620.)

John Ros of Balivat, a notorious malefactor, having been released of his ward in Edinburgh upon a bond given by James Gordoun of Knockespak for his entry before the Council when required, one, Robert Elder, a messenger, is ordered to charge Gordoun to enter Ros on 10 April next under pain of rebellion. Elder executed the charge against Gordoun at his house at Knockaspak on 25 March, and at the market cross of Abirdein on 28 March. Gordoun failing to appear 10 April, the Lords decern against him, but continue the outgiving of letters till 24 inst.—Edinb., 10 April 1604. (R.P.Co., VII., p. 633.)

Commissioners of the Peace were appointed for the several shires by His Majesty the King: in the list for Aberdeenshire for year 1609-10 is the name of James Gordoun of Knockespak. The list confirmed at Edinb., 6 November 1610. (R.P.Co., IX., p. 79.)

In the matter of a complaint by Dame Agnes

Sinclair, Countess of Errol, and Alexander Gordoune of Strathdoune, her present spouse, against William Hay, her son by her former marriage, and others, for violent molestation at Auchereis, before the Council at Edinburgh, 10 June 1613, the pursuers appeared by James Gordoun of Knockaspic. The defenders failed to appear, and were denounced rebels. (R.P.Co., X., p. 76.)

When a charge was made against the laird of Gicht and others for the murder of Francis Hay, James Gordoun of Knockaspic appeared to excuse the absence of the defenders, other than William Hay, son-in-law of George Gordoun of Gicht.—At Edinb., 16 April 1616. (R.P.Co., IX., 500.)

“A Petition” came before the Lords of the Council at Edinburgh, 19 January 1618, made by Sir Alex. Gordoun of Cluny, as brother to Dame Grissel Stewart, Lady Meldrum, “moder to Marjorie Gordoun, dochter lauchful to umquhil Sir Thomas Gordoun of Cluny, knycht, procreat betwix him and me,” by the said Dame Grissel, and by Johnne Seytoun of Meldrum for his interest, as now spouse of the said Dame Grissel. “The said Marjorie, who is a young, harmless Damosell, not past xiiij. yeiris of age, was educated and brought up be the said Dame Grissel and her spouse in his place of Meldrum. Johnne Gordoun, son of James Gordoun of Knockespak, and domestic servitor to the said laird of Meldrum, showed himself so unworthy of the trust and credite placed in him as to resolve to ravish and tak the said Marjorie Gordoun away, only waiting upon the tyme an occasioun to put his wicked purpos in executioun.” On 24 December, “the laird left for a few days’ hawking. Johnne feigned to be sick, and stayed at home. Keeping quiet till night, when all was still, he rose, and with some accomplices put violent hands on her, and by force carried her off to the house of the said James Gordoun, his father, or to some other place unknown.” Petition was presented that an order should be issued to the said persons to appear before the Council on a certain day and exhibit the said Marjorie. On the back is “Fiat ut petitur.”—Edinb., 19 January 1618. (R.P.Co., XI., 619-20.) [Only the substance of the above entry is given here.]

By a complaint made to the Privy Council by George, Marquis of Huntly, as Sheriff-Principal of Aberdeenshire, it appears that he directed

James Gordoun of Knockaspen [sic] and Thomas Gordoun of Gowill, his deputes, to apprehend George Meldrum of Haltoun for non-fulfilment of obligations to Andrew Meldrum of Dumbrek, and being unrelaxed from horning. That they accordingly went to his house; but George, seeing them approaching, fled and closed the gate against their entry, and held it to keep them out. Upon this they lay about it to reduce him to surrender; but John Innes of Crombie came to the rescue, pretending that he was to try and persuade Meldrum to give himself up. Instead of this he let George Meldrum out of the house, set him upon his best horse and "patt him away." The pursuer appeared by Thomas Crombie, and the defender failed to appear: the Lords ordered the latter to be denounced rebel.—At Edinb., 18 Dec. 1621. (R.P.Co., XIII., 505.)

James Gordoun of Knockaspec and — Gordoun, apparent of K., were appointed Justices of the Peace for Aberdeenshire, 21 August 1623. (Reg. P. Co., XIII., 349.) [William G. was apparent of K. at this time.]

John Gordoun, son to the guidman of Knik-espak, with several others, including George Gordoun of Geicht, were complained of by Harry Wood of Bonnytoun for an attack upon him in the Kirk of St Vigeans, and for wrongful apprehension and other violence. Gicht appeared for himself and several others, who were absent. The Lords found the assault proved; ordered Gicht to be committed to ward in the Tolbooth and fined him; also to present before them John Gordoun of Ardlogie, Adam G., his son, and John G., son to Knikaspec, that they may be punished. Gicht and Bonnytoun were also ordered to find caution in 5000 merks each to keep the peace towards each other.—Edinb., 28 April 1624. (R.P.Co., XII., 497.)

Henry Ramsay of Ardownie gave caution in 2000 merks for George Gordoun of Gicht that he should present Adam Gordoun, son to John Gordoun of Ardlogie, and John Gordoun, son to James Gordoun of Knockespic before the Lords of Council on 1 June next.—Edinb., 3 May 1624. (R.P.Co., XIII., 505.)

John G. of Knokaspic was summoned before the Council as one of the complices who took part with Patrick Gordoun, brother to Gordoun of Gicht, and John G. of Ardlogie, another brother, in an assault upon a Richard Gordoun, who was a son of John Gordoun of Drymmies

(cadet of Craig), and who later in his turn petitioned the King for a pardon for the slaughter of the said Patrick. The origin of this quarrel was that Richard Gordoun was a suitor for a girl, Margaret Cushnie, in marriage; but she was carried off and forced by William Gordoun, son of the above-named Patrick. In spite of this Richard afterwards married her. Upon this Patrick and William, wishing to be revenged, along with others, lay in wait for and wounded Richard, who, armed with a pistol for self-defence, used it and mortally wounded Patrick. After his death Richard petitioned for protection from the revenge of Patrick's family. (R.P.Co., 2nd Series, Vol. I., 268.)

The Lords of Council investigated above matter, and reported that Richard's account thereof was correct. (R.P.Co., 2nd Series, I., 317-19.) I presume his petition was granted. Note here that the John Gordoun here called "John G. of Knokaspic" must be the second son of James G. of Knokaspic, and called by Balbithan "Captain John Gordoun," also that he married a daughter of John Gordoun of Ardlogie.

Among some short extracts and notes from the Sasine Registers relating to various Gordons, which were sent to me a few years ago, I find the following, which belong to the time of James, the 3rd laird of Knockespock; some of them are very brief, but confirmatory or suggestive:—

James G. of Knockespock [a sasine apply. 27 June 1605.]

Another from George G. (?) of Terpersie. William G., apparent of Knockespach in Ballade [Or Ballader for Ballater], and Outseat. —10 December 1608.

William G., son to James G. of Knockespach, in Tulliechie, Muir, Knok, and Dalfour.—17 May 1619.

Recd. George G. of Terpersie to James G. of Knockespach of East  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Kirkton of Clatt. —7 July 1619.

Another of the same.

Contract James G. of Knockespach and William G., his son, in Knockmad.—8 July 1619.

George G. in Candakyl and Bessie G., his spouse, in Knok and Dalfour.—10 July 1619.

*Note.*—George of Cracullie was a son of John Gordoun of Blelack, and married Bessie, daughter of James G. of Knockespock, by whom he had William, James, and George Gordons. (Balb. MS., p. 43.)

Renunciation to William Gordon of Knokaspic of Tullich.—5 June 1620.

Renunciation to William G. of Knockespak by George G. in Candakyll and Bessie G., his spouse, of lands in Knock.—5 June 1620.

George G. in Kandakyll sas. in Craigcullie.—20 November 1620.

Renunciation lands of Tullich to William G. of Knockespak.—10 July 1632.

Reversion of Milntown of Tullich to William G. of Knockespak and George Gordon of Terpersie.—15 June 1633.

From the above sasines it seems evident that James, the 3rd laird, was alive in 1619; and according to the Register of the Privy Council James and his apparent heir were appointed Justices of the Peace in 1623, but William is designated "of Knockespock" in two sasines of 5 June 1620.

I found no mention of a Gordon of Knockespock in the Register of the Great Seal, Vol. VII., A.D. 1620-1633, nor in Vol. VIII. According to the Balbithan MS., James, the 3rd laird, died in 1631. Perhaps he resigned his lands in favour of his eldest son, reserving the differment, but I have failed to find any record of this, or any service of William as heir.

The following notes relative to this laird are taken from "Records of Aboyne":—

James G. of Knockespock was witness to a letter of reversion granted by Donald Farquharson of Tulligarmont [his son-in-law] in favour of the Marquis of Huntly of Candachailzie and other lands, dated 5 June 1599. He was also witness to a Precept of Clare Constat by the same Marquis for infecting John Forbes of Brux as heir to his father in the lands of Gellan, 23 March 1602. ("Records of Aboyne," p. 186.)

In 1612, James Gordoun of Knockespock was witness to a Tack by Alexander Gordoun of Cluny. ("Records of Aboyne," p. 207.)

The grant of a reversion of east half of Kirkton of Clatt by George Gordoun of Terpersie to James G. of Knockespock in 1619 is mentioned in "Records of Aboyne," p. 291 (see sasines above).

In 1620, James Gordoun of Knockespock, along with Sir Alexander Gordoun of Cluny, Knight, and Robert Farquharson in Finzean, as Curators of Donald Farquharson of Tulligarmont, are consenting parties to a contract between George, Marquis of Huntly, and his eldest son, Lord Gordon, respecting the infectment of

the said Donald Farquharson in the lands of Belleatracb and others, in consideration of a payment of 3000 merks and an annual feu duty (amount left blank).

This Donald's mother was Beatrix, daughter of James Gordoun of Knockespock. She married Donald Farquharson, senior, in 1603, *then* styled "yr. of Tulligarmont" ("Records of Aboyne," p. 179). He is called in the Balb. MS. "of Inchmarnoch," but is better known as "of Castletown and Monaltrie." His son, Donald, also "of Monaltrie," the Marquis of Huntly's bailie on Deeside, was generally known as "Colonel Donald Farquharson of Monaltrie, the Pride of Braemar."

Perhaps we may assume that the date given by Balbithan of the death of the 3rd laird of Knockespock, 1631, is correct: he adds that he was buried in the Kirk of Clatt (Balb. MS., p. 64). From about the beginning of the century, his son, William, seems to have been practically the laird, for it will be seen below that by October 1601, he was "fiar of Knockespock," although designed "apparent" thereof as late as 1623. A sasine given below, dated 5 June 1620, tends to confirm this. I have not found anything to prove that James of Knockespock was alive later than 1623. He is incidentally mentioned as the "deceased James G. of Knockespock in December 1633.

#### WILLIAM GORDON, IV. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

WILLIAM GORDON, 4th laird of Knockespock, succeeded his father, perhaps in 1631.

He married, according to the Balbithan MS. (p. 64), "the laird of Gairn's daughter," with whom he begat sons and daughters, *viz.* :—

1. James [who is mentioned as *fiar of Knockespock* in a sasine in January 1634, and predeceased his father, leaving a son, Robert, who got Clatt, perhaps part of the estate].
2. Captain Alexander.

No daughters' names are given.

The following extracts from the Register of the Great Seal show that "the Laird of Gairn" was Gardyn of that ilk, and that William of Knockespock's wife was Helen Gardin or Gardyn, daughter of Mr David Gardyn of Gardyn, and that they were married before 7 October 1601.

Mention is made of this lady as spouse of

William Gordoun, "fiar of Knockaspeck," in a contract dated 17 October 1601, which is referred to in a charter dated at Edinburgh and other places in March to April 1604.

The King confirmed a charter of William Rowan of Ballindane, by which—in virtue of a contract between the deceased Sir William Rollok of Gardyn, and Jean Stewart, his spouse, with consent of Mr David Gardyn, formerly *de codem*, for himself, and as heir of the deceased John, his brother, and Helen Gardyn, daughter of the said Mr David, with consent of William Gordoun, fair of Knockaspeck, her husband, on the one part, and the deceased Sir William Rowan of Ballindean, father of the said William Rowan, then of Ballindean, Lady Jean (or Katharine) Stewart, his spouse, himself and Christian Barclay, his spouse, on the other part, dated at Edinburgh and . . . 17 Oct. 1601, and . . . —he sold to Sir Robert Crychtoun of \*Cluny, his heirs and assigns whomsoever, the lands of Airlywrycht, with the fortalice, manor place, &c [and various other lands] in the barony of Auchtergawin, Sheriffdom of Perth. Dated at Edinburgh, Rattray, &c., . . . 15 and 19 March and 25 April 1604; and the King granted the lands *de novo*. Confirmed at Edinb., 18 September 1606. (R.M.S., V., 1796.)

The same Helen Gardyn is also incidentally mentioned in the next extract, which gives details of another charter granted at Edinburgh in March 1607, and confirmed there in July following, which also refers to a contract dated 1601.

It was granted by Andrew Rollok, son and heir of the deceased Sir Walter Rollok de Gairden and Lady Jean Stewart, with consent of his curators and the said Jean, and by the said John, for himself, and by it—in fulfilment of a contract made between the said Walter and Jean, with consent of Mr David Gardyn, Elizabeth Stewart, his spouse, George Gardyn, his brother, for himself, and as heir of the late John, his brother, and Helen Gardyn, daughter of the said David with consent of William Gordoun, fair of Knockespeck, her husband, *on the one part*, and the deceased Sir William Rowan of Ballindene, William R., his son, fair of the same, the deceased Lady Katharine

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\*The Cluny here mentioned is Cluny Crichton, near Raemoir, Banchory.

Stewart, spouse of the said Sir William, and Christian Barclay, spouse of William R., younger, *on the other part*, dated at Dunkeld, 7 October 1601; and by virtue of a decree arbitral, &c., &c., and also of an assignation, &c., &c.—they sold to Sir Robert Creichtoun of Cluny, his heirs and assigns, the lands and barony of Gairdyn [then follows the description of the lands of the barony] in the Sheriffdom of Forfar. Dated [i.e., the charter of sale] at Edinb., 21 March 1607. Confirmed at Edinb., 1 July 1607. (R.M.S., V., 1937.)

There is also mention of Helen Gardyn a little later. The contract referred to in the extract from R.M.S., V., 1796, and “dated at Edinb. and . . . 17 October and . . . 1601.” is that referred to in a charter dated 1604. The contract bears to be between the deceased Sir Walter Rollok of Gardin and Lady Jean Stewart, his spouse, with various consents, which include that of Helen Gardin, daughter of David Gardin, given with consent of William Gordoun, fir of Knockaspak, her husband. The charter in which it occurs is one of sale by William Rowan, then of Ballindean, by which he sold to Thomas Chapman in [Qy.] Ragillanie and Christian Blair, his spouse, half of the town and lands of Monydie, &c. Dated at Perth, 19 July 1604. Confirmed at Edinb., 4 March 1611. (R.M.S., VI., 440.)

The present laird of Knockespock has further proof of this marriage in a large panel with two coats of arms, which was discovered some years ago incrusted with accumulated dust among lumber in an outbuilding. After it was cleaned and restored it proved to be an interesting family memorial of the past, and it is now hung on the wall of the entrance hall.

This panel has had emblazoned on it two coats of arms. The dexter side has a shield surmounted by a helmet, and bearing on a shield *azure* 3 boars' heads erased *or*, and the initial W on the dexter edge of the shield, and the initial G on its sinister edge; beneath are two scrolls crossing one another in the centre without any inscription now visible.

The sinister side of the panel has a similar shield on a field *azure*, a boar's head erased *or*, with initials H and G placed as by the other shield, and on a scroll beneath the date 1632.

Possibly there may have been a date or lettering on the scrolls beneath the dexter shield, and either a pheon or a buckle between the 3

boars' heads on the dexter coat; but I failed to make any such out when I saw the panel.

The arms ought, I presume, to correspond with those of the old Gordons of Buckie, with a difference (but I cannot find what the bearings of the Buckie family were), and those of Gardyn of Gardyn.

The initials on the two shields are beyond doubt those of William Gordon of Knockespock and of Helen Gardyn, his spouse, his arms being those of the earliest Gordons of Knockespock, and her's those of Gardyn of that ilk; but the field should be *argent* and the boar's head *sa.* armed *or.* (See Balfour Paul's *Ordinary of Arms*, 1st Edition, p. 132.) The tinctures may have been altered in restoring the panel.

Several notes from the Register of Sasines have been given a few pages above, which mostly relate to William Gordoun of Knockespock, while still apparent, but "fiar" thereof, at dates 1608, 1619, 1620, and presumably whilo laird after his father's death in 1632 and 1633. Since the above was written, I have procured from Edinburgh several much fuller notes from 1619-1669.

Sasines relative to William Gordon as younger of Knockespock, but fiar thereof.

It will be seen from the following extract that William Gordon must immediately after he acquired them have made over Knock and Dalfour to George Gordon in Kandakyill and Bessie Gordon, spouse of the latter, and his own sister; and got them back within 12 months, and that he recovered Tullich in 1632:—

"1619—July 10.—Registration of sasine, dated 25 May, of George Gordon in Kandakyill, for himself, and Bessie Gordon, his spouse, in the lands of Knok and Dalfour on a charter to them by William Gordon, apparent of Knockespok, with consent of James Gordon, Knockespok, his father, of these lands and fishings, &c., in the parish of Glenmuik. The charter is dated at Aberdeen, 22 May 1619, among the witnesses being William Gordon of Kennartie; and among the witnesses to the sasine are John Gordon in Waternadie, and Alexander Gordon in Ardmenache."

"1620—June 5.—Registration of Renunciation by Patrick Smith of Findlage of the lands of Tullich in favour of William Gordon, apparent of Knockespock, wadset to him by James Gordon of Knockespock, his father, dated 30 May 1620."

"1620—June 5.—Registration of Renunciation George Gordon in Candakyill and Bessie Gordon, his spouse, to William Gordon of Knockespock, and James Gordon of Knockespock, his father, of the lands of Knok and Dalfour. Dated at Aberdeen, 5 June, among the witnesses being William Gordon of Kennartie and George Gordon of Govill." [Note.—Thomas Gordon of Govill and James G. of Knockaspen are mentioned in Reg. Priv. Co., 18 Dec. 1621.]

Sasines relative to William Gordon of Knockespock :—

"1632—July 10.—Registration of Renunciation by Donald Farquharson in Inchmarno and Margaret Gordon, his spouse, of their wadset from William Gordon of Knockespock of the half of Tullich. Dated at Aberdeen, 30 May 1632—a witness being Captain John Gordon." The last named was no doubt the brother of William of Knockespock: he married a sister of Colonel Nathaniel Gordon, Ardgologie, a Cavalier, who was executed by the Covenanters. Note also, that William G. of Knockespock, along with George Gordon of Terpersie, redeemed Milltown of Tullich.

"1633—June 15.—Registration of Renunciation by Arthur Ross of Stering to William Gordoun of Knockespock, who has paid him 3000 merks, for the redemption of the Milltown of Tullich, which he and Elspet Couttie [Qr. Coutts], his spouse, acknowledge, and he resigns the same in favour of the said William Gordon of Knockespock and George Gordon of Terpersie, and their heirs and assignees. Dated at Aberdeen 15 June 1633, one witness being William Gordon, apparent of Terpersie."

Mention of James G., apparent heir of Knockespock :—

In December 1633, we have mention of James Gordon, apparent of Knockespock and Jean Bisset, his future spouse, getting sasine in Kirkton of Clatt, upon a charter granted by George Gordoun of Terpersie. Compare a sasine relative to part of Clatt, dated 7 July 1619.

The next sasine shows the laird of Knockespock and his spouse making assignation to their eldest lawful son, James Gordon, of certain reversions, in consideration of certain sums paid to them by Mr Robert Bisset of Lessindrum, in name of Jean Bisset, his daughter, and future spouse of the said James. Mention is there made of "the deceased James Gordon of

Knockespock, father of the said William G. of Knockespock," and it is dated at Arradoule, 3 December 1633. It will be remembered that, according to the Ball. MS., James G. of K., the third laird, died in 1631; his wife was Margaret Gordon, heiress of Arradoul.

It seems probable that William, 4th laird of Knockespock, like too many of the Aberdeenshire lairds of the time, became embarrassed with debts, and was compelled to part with most or all of his property. In 1642, we find a sasine to the following effect:—

"1642—June 26.—Registration of sasine, dated 16 June, of George Gordon of Noth on a charter by Mr Robert Farquhar of Mowny, bailie burgess of Aberdeen; Mr James Farquharson, W.S.; Robert Gordon, eldest lawful son of the deceased William Gordon of Kenertie by Janet Gordon, his second wife, and his heir of the said marriage, with consent of his curators, and the said Janet Gordon for herself, also with consent of William Gordon of Knockespak, and by the said William Gordon and Helen Gardyne, his spouse, and James Gordon, their eldest son, all with one consent and assent to the said George Gordon of Noth and his heirs and assignees of the lands of Over Knockespak and Nether Knockespak, with right of fuel in the Moss of Auchlyne, &c. Dated at Aberdeen and Knockespach, 10th and 16th June 1642." This looks generally like a family transaction.

Mr Robert Farquhar of Mowny or Mwny was one of the Committee appointed by "the Estaitis" for "the taxatione and loan moneys within the Sheriffdom of Abirdein," which met in October 1643. No doubt he belonged to the well-known Covenanter family of that name; but Mr James Farquharson, W.S., was the second son of Donald Farquharson and Beatrice Gordon, daughter of James Gordon of Knockespock: his name occurs several times as a witness to charters in "Records of Aboyne," and he purchased the lands of Whitehouse in Cromar. Later he purchased the Mill and Mill lands of Glenmuick for £1200, on marrying Anna, daughter of Colonel Thomas Gardyne as his second wife. He granted a charter in favour of himself and her in conjunct fee and their lawful heirs of the body of the lands of Bellatracke, Ballindorrie, and others in Glenmuick. ("Rec. of Aboyne," p. 279.) William Gordon of Kenertie had married a sister of William

Gordon of Knockespock, and from this sasine we learn that her Christian name was Janet, as the laird of Kenertie was baron of Braichley ; and also that they had a son, Robert.

In the following sasine we find mention of James, yr. of Knockespock as deceased :—

“ 1648—May 22.—Registration of sasine, dated 20 May, of Robert Gordon, eldest lawful son of the deceased James Gordon, apparent of Knockespock and of Clatt, on a Precept of Clare Constat by William Gordon of Terpersie, in the town and lands of Clatt, &c., dated at the Kirk of Drumblait, 16 May 1648, among the witnesses being Robert Gordon of Civilie.”

It may be pointed out here that Clatt was evidently not at this time part of the Knockespock estate, and that it had belonged to Robert Gordon, 3rd son of the 2nd laird of Knockespock, then to George Gordon of Terpersie, and then to James Gordon, fir of Knockespock, and then to the same and his spouse, Jean Bisset.

From the sasine given to George Gordon of Noth of the lands of Over and Nether Knockespak in 1642, it would seem that they passed from the old family of Gordon of Knockespock to another family connected by marriage ; and further, from the sasine given to Robert Gordon, eldest son of the deceased James G., apparent of Knockespock, in the lands of Clatt in 1648, that the estate of Knockespock did not revert to a male heir of the old family, but had passed to a George Gordon, previously designed “ of Noth.”

I have not found any mention of the date of William Gordon, 4th laird of Knockespock’s death. Balbithan says that James, his eldest son, “ married the laird of Lessindrum’s daughter (Bissat), and begat . . . . The said James went to France Captain in a Regiment, and died there 1643.”

We have seen that James left a son, Robert, who got sasine in Clatt, as his father’s eldest son on 16 May 1648, when his father is mentioned as deceased. I can find no retours of service of either Robert, or his father, or grandfather, or great-grandfather.

I think it may be held that the old and first line of Gordons of Knockespock as lairds came to an end on the death of William, the 4th laird, whose eldest son, James, does not seem to have been fir.

If, as I think probable, the first laird of the

second line was George Gordon of Cracullie, who married a daughter of James Gordon, 3rd laird of Knockespock, and sister of William Gordon, the 4th laird, and if John Gordon who succeeded George Gordon was her son, the succession in blood was carried on through a female; but so far from having proof of this, I think it improbable. I am much inclined to adopt a supposition that this John was a cousin of William, the 4th laird, and son of Captain John Gordon by a daughter of John Gordon of Ardlogie, and sister of Colonel Nathaniel Gordon, the well-known Cavalier.

If there is good authority for the following incident, the 4th laird was intrusted with an important duty on the King's behalf, though he was prevented from carrying it out:—

“In 1639, when the Marquis of Huntly sent William Gordoun of Knockespock with provisions and ammunition and a number of men to garrison the Castle of Inverness for the King, Sir James Fraser (of Brea), along with Thomas Fraser, younger of Strichen, and others, intercepted Gordon, seized his arms and ammunition, fortified the Castle, and garrisoned it with bodies of the Frasers, Mackenzies, Munroes, and other Covenanting Clans.” (Mackenzie's *Hist. of the Frasers*, p. 521.) The Marquis was hereditary keeper of the Castle of Inverness.

As I mentioned above, I have failed to find anything to show the date of the death of the 4th laird, but think it may have taken place about the year 1643, perhaps about 12 years after that of his father.

#### GEORGE GORDON V. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

I may now give what I take to be the descent of George Gordon of Knockespock, of a different family. The sources of information available do not afford *proof* as to his paternity, or that his successor was his son or any near relative; but I think his wife was of the old Knockespock family.

It is certain that there was a person designated “George Gordon *in* Kandachail,” and that his wife's name was Bessie Gordon. The services of heirs afford no help. The Balbitian MS. mentions (pp. 42 and 43) a “George Gordon of Cracullie,” and by comparing what it states with what is to be found in “Records of Aboyne” (pp. 240 and 259), and some sasines,

I think these two designations belong to the same person, and that he was one of the Gordons of Blelack, and not, as alleged in an old MS. quoted in "Scottish Notes and Queries," Vol. III., No. 9, 2nd Series, p. 139. one of the Gordons of Daach or Dauch. In an old genealogy of Thomas Gordon of Daach, there given John Gordon of Glenbucket is called grandson of George Gordon of Noth, and the latter stated to be descended from William Gordon of Balveny, one of the sons of the said Thomas.

I think that the Balbithan MS. is a more reliable authority, as far as it goes; but he gives no information relative to lairds of Knockespock later than William, the 4th laird of the old line. He gives us some, however, about George Gordon of Cracullie.

At page 43, it is stated that George Gordon of Cracullie married a daughter of James Gordon [the 3rd laird] of Blelack, and brother of Alexander Gordon of Blelack (who with his spouse, Katharine Baird, got sasine in Blelack 27 November 1604, his father's liferent being reserved).

This family of Blelack was descended from James G. of Blelack, son of Alexander Gordon of Tillyminate, the elder brother of the first laird of Lesmoir, and was therefore descended from Jock of Scurdargue, and not from Tam of Daugh or Ruthven. The Alexander of Blelack just mentioned was deceased by 13 June 1631; and another Alexander of Blelack is said to have "bought the lands of Proney, and to have died in peace at Culdrain in August 1650." (Balb. MS., p. 42.) I have a note that an Alexander of Blelack got sasine in Culdrain in 1618, and an Alexander of Blelack got sasine in the same place in 1632.

I have procured from the General Register House in Edinburgh pretty full notes from a number of Aberdeenshire sasines in hopes they may aid in coming to a decision. These I now subjoin, giving them all in their order, though I have already quoted some of them, for easier reference:—

1619—July 10.—Registration of sasine, dated 25 May, of George Gordoun in Kandakyill, for himself, and Bessie Gordon, his spouse, in the lands of Knok and Dalfour, on a charter to them by William Gordon, apparent of Knockespock, with consent of James Gordon of Knockespock, his father, of those lands and fishings,

&c., in the parish of Glenmuick. The charter is dated at Aberdeen, 22 May 1619; among the witnesses thereto being William Gordon of Kenertie, and among the witnesses to the sasine are John Gordon in Waternadic and Alexander Gordon in Ardmeneache. [Note. — William Gordon of Kenertie seems to have been identical with William Gordon of Breahley, or Brauchlie, who with William G. of Knockespock were joint debtors to Robert Irving of Feddercat in IIIm. IIIe. merks in 1633.] (Book of Annual Rentaris, &c.)

1620—June 5.—Registration of Renunciation by Patrick Smith of Findlage of the lands of Tullich in favour of William Gordoun, apparent of Knockespock, wadset to him by James Gordon of Knockespock, his father, dated 30 May 1620.

1620—June 5.—Registration of Renunciation by George Gordon in Candekyll and Bessie Gordon, his spouse, to William Gordon of Knockespock and James Gordon of Knockespock, his father, of the lands of Knok and Dalfour. Dated at Aberdeen, 5th June, among the witnesses being William Gordon of Kinertie and George Gordon of Govill.

1620—November 20.—Registration of sasine, dated 9 November 1620, of George Gordon in Keandakyll and Bessie Gordon, his wife (by James Gordon in Bagartie, her attorney), in the lands of Craigulie, Cottertoun, and Patrick Ros Croft, upon a charter thereof to them by George, Marquis of Huntly, dated at Aberdeen, 7 June 1620, which contains a precept of sasine directed to Alexander Gordon of Blelack. Among the witnesses to the sasine are Patrick Gordon in Middle Drumbulge and Robert Gordon in Dubbis. Robert Gordon in Dubbis was brother to George Gordon of Cracullie. (Balb. MS., p. 42.)

I think the above sasine shows George G. of Cracullie to be identical with George G. in Candakyll. The next shows that Alexander of Blelaek was dead by 1631:—

1631—July 6.—Registration of sasine, dated 13 June 1631, of John Gordon, brother of the deceased Alexander Gordon of Blelack, in the lands of Blelack upon a precept of clare constat by John, Earl of Mar, in his favour as heir of his said brother-german, who died last infect in the lands of Blelack, under reservation of the liferent of Katharine Baird, the widow of

the said Alexander Gordon. The precept is dated at the Canongate, 31 March 1631. John Gordon in Pronny is bailie, and gives sasine.

The above Alexander G. of Blelack "bought Proney, and died in peace at Culdrain in 1650 [*sic*, evidently for 1630]. These Gordons of Prony were tenants of Drumbulg for a long period. Culdrain is the next farm to Drumbulg. Katharine Baird married as her second husband Robert Gordon in Haltoun of Drumbulg.

1632—July 10.—Registration of Renunciation by Donald Farquharson in Inchmarno and Margaret Gordon, his spouse, of their wadset from William Gordon of Knockespock of the half of Tullich. Dated at Aberdeen, 30 May 1632, a witness being Captain John Gordon

*Note.*—Captain John Gordon was brother, and Margaret Gordon, spouse of Donald Farquharson, was sister to William Gordon of Knockespock (see Balb. MS.). Their father, James G. of Knockespock, had died perhaps in 1631, and Margaret's sister was the wife of Mr George Gordon of Cracullie. Another sister married the Baron of Braichlie, i.e., William G. of Kenartie (see *Ibid.*). Perhaps the above Renunciation was in favour of Arthur Ross of Stering.

1632—July 24.—Registration of Renunciation, dated at Aberdeen, 23 June 1632, by Katharine Baird, widow of Alexander Gordon of Blelack, and now spouse to Robert Gordon of Haltoun of Drumbulg, of the liferent right in lands of Blelack, in the parish of Logymar, and Middle Third of Culdrain, in favour of John Gordoun, eldest lawful son of John Gordon, now of Blelack, brother and heir of the deceased Alexander Gordon, sometime of Blelack, in terms of a contract between them, dated 23 March last. The renunciation is made in presence of Mr James Irving, Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen.

*Note.*—We find in the book of Annual Rentaris, 1633, the Marquis of Huntly debtor to Robert Gordoun of Cowdrayne upon wadsett of Cowdrayne, IIIm. merks; and the same to the same upon Haltoun, Drumbulge, and Milne of Colluthie, IIIIm. merks.

The next abstract shows the redemption of Miltoun of Tullich, or perhaps the half of it, by William Gordon of Knockespock:—

1633—June 15.—Registration of Renunciation by Arthur Ross of Stering to William Gordon of Knockespock, who has paid him 3000 merks

for the redemption of the Miltoun of Tullich, which he and Elspet Coutts, his spouse, acknowledge, and he resigns the same in favour of the said William Gordon of Knockespock and George Gordon of Terpersie and their heirs and assignees. Dated at Aberdeen, 15 June 1633, one witness being William Gordon, apparent of Terpersie.

1634—January 13.—Registration of sasine, dated 2 December 1633, of James Gordon, apparent of Knockespock, and Jean Bisset, his future spouse, in the Kirktown of Clatt, upon a charter by George Gordon of Terpersie. Dated at Clatt, 2 December, a witness to which is James Gordon, “nepote” of the said George Gordon of Terpersie. [This James was son of William and grandson of George Gordon of Terpersie.]

1634—January 13.—Registration of assignation by William Gordon of Knockespock and Helen Gardyne, his spouse, to James Gordon, their eldest lawful son, and for certain sums of money paid to them by Mr Robert Bisset of Lessindrum, in name of Jean Bisset, his daughter, future spouse of the said James, of certain reversions specified therein, in which mention is made of the deceased James Gordon of Knockespock, father of the said William Gordon of Knockespock. Dated at Arradoule, 9 December 1633. [Note.—James Gordon of Knockespock had married the daughter of William Gordon of Arradoul, 2nd son of Alexander Gordon of Buckie. (Balb. MS., p. 64.) This James G. of K. died perhaps in 1631.]

We now come to mention of the acquisition of Auld Noth and Boigs by a George Gordon, designed “in Gibistoun” and “Chamberlain at Huntly,” and the question is whether he was previously “of Craigullie” or not. I cannot light upon mention of him as Chamberlain of Strathbogie; and there is a difficulty in that we find Jean Anderson to be his spouse in 1638, whereas the wife of George Gordon, who got sasine with her husband in 1620 was Bessie Gordon, Knockespock’s daughter, Craigullie, now known as Craigwillie, and Gibston are two farms within, say,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles of each other, or less, both in parish of Dunbennan, lying to the westward of Huntly. Auld Noth is at the east end of the Hill of Noth, near the public road from Gartly Station to Rhynie, about half-way between them.

The extract is as follows:—

1638—June 9.—Registration of sasine, dated 4th June, of George Gordon in Gibistoun, Chamberlain at Huntly, and Jean Anderson, his spouse, on a charter by George, Marquis of Huntly, of the lands of Auld Noth and Boigs, in the parish of Rhynie. I understand that Boigs is in a hollow between the hills of Noth and Kirkney, quite near Old Noth.

The next extract refers to the *old* Gordons of Glenbucket:—

1642—February 12.—Registration of sasine, dated 9 February, of Patrick Gordon of Glenbucket, on a charter by John, Earl of Mar, in Easter and Wester Inverbuckets, lands of Ballentmoir, Balnacraig, Balnaboth, Badinzone, Killwalieith, Ballochdowe, and Balnafak for him. He is called lawful son of the deceased Sir Adam Gordon of Park, procreated between him and Lady Helen Tyrie, his spouse. Among the witnesses to the sasine is James Gordon, brother of the said Patrick.

[*Note.*—This James Gordon, was, I presume, “father to John Gordon, Tutor of Glenbucket,” mentioned in the Balb. MS., p. 37.]

The next extract is an important one. It relates to “George Gordon of Noth’s” acquiring Over and Nether Knockespock:—

1642—June 26.—Registration of sasine, dated 16 June, of George Gordon of Noth on a charter by Mr Robert Farquhar of Mowny, bailie, burgher of Aberdeen; Mr James Farquharson, W.S.; Robert Gordon, eldest lawful son of the deceased William Gordon of Kenertie by Janet Gordon, his second wife, and his heir of the said marriage, with consent of his curators, and the said Janet Gordon for herself; also with consent of William Gordon of Knockespak, and by the said William Gordon and Helen Gardyne, his spouse, and James Gordon, their eldest son, all with one consent and assent to the said George Gordon of Noth and his heirs and assignees of the lands of Over Knockespak and Nether Knockespak, with right of fuel in the Moss of Auchlyne, &c. Dated at Aberdeen and Knockespak, 10 and 16 June 1642.

The above shows, at any rate, that George Gordon of Noth got a charter from the persons named, with consent of various members of the Knockespock family of Over and Nether Knockespock. I think it savours of a family arrange-

ment, as if the old family could not keep it, and as if perhaps the new proprietor was connected with them through his first wife. The name of Mr Robert Farquhar makes one suspect the purchase of apprisings affecting the lands of Knockespock. A debt due by William Gordon of Knockespock and William Gordoun of Brauchley [i.e., Kenertie] of IIIm. IIIc. merks to Robert Irving of Fedderat has been noted already; and William G. of K. is noted as having paid to Dame Marioun Douglas, Lady Drum, 1m. Vc. merks. It should be borne in mind that William Gordon of Kenartie, "Baron of Braicklie," George Gordon of Cracullie, and Donald Farquharson of Inchmarnoch (elder brother of Mr James Farquharson, W.S.), married three sisters, daughters of James Gordon of Knockespock; but, on the other hand, George Gordon in Gibistoun's wife was by 4 June 1638 a Jean Anderson.

The next extract shows that James Gordon, apparent of Knockespock and of Clatt, was deceased a few years later, and that James' eldest son got sasine in Clatt, a small distinct property. From its terms it seems probable that William Gordon of Terpersie was the superior.

The extract runs as follows:—

1648—May 22.—Registration of sasine, dated 20 May, of Robert Gordon, eldest lawful son of the deceased James Gordon, apparent of Knockespock and of Clatt, on a Precept of Clare Constat by William Gordon of Terpersie, in the town and lands of Clatt, &c., dated at the Kirk of Drumbrait, 14 May 1648; among the witnesses being Robert Gordon of Civilie.

In the next extract George Gordon, previously designed "of Noth," is styled "now of Knockespock." It appears to be merely a repetition of the sasine registered 16 June 1642.

1650—February 20.—Registration of sasine dated 18 February, of George Gordon, now of Knockespock, upon a charter by Mr Robert Farquhar of Mowny, bailie, burgess of Aberdeen; Mr James Farquharson, W.S.; Robert Gordon, eldest lawful son of the deceased William Gordon of Kennertie by Janet Gordon, his second wife, and by the said Janet Gordon and others, and also with consent of William Gordon, formerly of Knockespock, and Helen Gardyne, his spouse, and James Gordon, their

eldest son, to theforesaid George Gordon, of the lands of Over and Nether Knockespock, called the Newton of Knockespock, with the Mill, &c., dated at Aberdeen and Knockespock, 10 and 16 June 1642.

1650—August 29.—Registration of sasine, dated 27 August, of George Gordon of Knockespock in the lands of Segiden, in the parish of Kinethmont, upon a charter from William Gordon of Terpersie and James Gordon, his eldest son, to him. Dated at Clatt, 27 August 1650; among the witnesses being John Gordon of Law, and Mr George Gordon, Rector at Clatt.

The next extract shows a *John Gordon* to be laird of Knockespock, and that he had a brother James. There does not appear to be any service of this John as heir.

It will be seen that John got his disposition from Mr Patrick *Anderson* of Knockespock, and the name of the wife of George Gordon “in Gibistoun,” who acquired Auld Noth, and later “of Knockespock,” was Jean Anderson. Possibly Patrick Anderson had acquired a wadset over Knockespock, and John Gordon may have acquired it from him and redeemed it.

It runs as follows:—

1663—December 2.—Registration of sasine, dated 13 October, of John Gordon of Knockespock, on a Disposition to him by Mr Patrick Anderson of Knockespak of the town and lands of Newton of Knockespak, Nether Knockespak, Sowiefourt Craig [Qr. Sowie-foot or Sowieford], with mill therein, in the parish of Rhynie. Dated at Knockespak, 13 October. A witness to the sasine is James Gordon, brother of the said John Gordon of Knockespak. [Unfortunately, no description of John Gordon is given here.]

The next extract has John Gordon, Tutor of Glenbucket, one of the witnesses to a Renunciation by John Gordon of Knockespock of a wadset of certain lands made to him by Patrick Gordon of Badinscoth:—

1669—May 15.—Registration of Renunciation by John Gordon of Knockespock of a wadset made to him by Patrick Gordon of Badinscoth on 16 June 1666, whereby, for 3000 merks, Patrick Gordon wadset to him part of the barony of Auchterless, which he has repaid. Dated at Badinscoth, 26 March 1669; witnesses, John Gordon, tutor of Glenbuchat, and others.

So far the sasines, but the details are not fully explicit.

I may next refer to the information respecting George Gordon in Candakyll, which is to be found in "Records of Aboyne," pp. 240, 251, and 259. George certainly married a Bessie Gordon. They had sasine of the lands of Knock and Dalfour on 10 July 1619. They resigned these lands in favour of William Gordon of Knockespock on 5 June 1620 (Aberdeen Sas., Vol. I.). A precept of earlier date, 20 Dec. 1616, by K. James VI., is directed to George Gordoune in Chandokyill, as Sheriff in that part, for infecting Lawrence Gordon, 4th lawful son of the Marquis, his heirs male and others, in the lands of Auchterarne and others, on the resignation of Alexander Gordon of Cluny ("Rec. of Aboyne," pp. 240-2.)

On May 17, 1619, George, Marquis of Huntly, directed Precept of Clare Constat to George Gordon in Chandakailzie for infecting Donald Farquharson, now of Tulligarmont, as heir to the deceased Donald of Tulligarmont, his father, in the lands of Chandakaillzie, Ballastrach, and others. At Aberdeen. Instrument of sasine followed, 31 May 1619 (Aboyne Charter Chest). ("Rec. of Aboyne," p. 251.)

Again, "George Gordon of Craigullie, as noted elsewhere, married Bessie Gordon. He granted reversion of the lands of Craigullie to the Marquis of Huntly on 8 June 1620," reference being made to Aberdeenshire sasines, Vol. II. ("Rec. of Aboyne," p. 259.)

It appears to me a fair inference from the above that George Gordon in Candakyll and George Gordon in Craigullie are the same person, and that he removed to Gibiston, adjoining Craigullie, became Chamberlain in Strathbogie, and got a charter of Auld Noth in favour of himself and Jean Anderson (presumably his second wife), and not very long afterwards acquired Over and Nether Knockespock.

In the latter part of the 16th century it had become the policy of the Earl of Huntly to let farms of some extent to gentlemen, of which interesting evidence is forthcoming, which may be adduced here:—

The rental of the Lordship of Huntly for 1600 shows the great extent to which the Marquis' farms were let to gentlemen, mostly of the name of Gordon, on his large estates. It has been already mentioned that James Gordon of Knockespock had the farms of Elrick (or Elrig), a small one in the Cabrach, and of Tullich, Bal-

lader, Muir and Knock on payment of feu maill. He had also Ethniche (probably Etnach), with the Croift, ane pleuche, for which he paid yearly, Custom 10 stones butter and 5 kyiddis, all anerlie. Sett for 5 yeirs, enters Witsunday 1605 yeirs.

In same Rental, under Inchmarnoche, we find Ballemoir, ane pleuche, payis yeirlie maill £5 6s. 8d; Customs 1 weddir, 1 kyid, or 1 lamb, and 1 cow for foigaidge and custom; multer 1 boll beir, 1 boll aitis with the fodder—John Gardyne, tenant. This John Gardyne was for a long period a tenant of the Marquis of the farm of Bellamore (see “Rec. of Aboyne,” p. 252). Under the same heading, “Inchmarnoch,” Ballintorrie, ane pleuche; Ballastrade, ane pleuche; Chandokeilzie, ane pleuche, “wadsett to Donald Farquharson” is added opposite these three farms.

In the parish of Gartly, James Gordoun, appearand of Pronye, was tenant; failing him George Gordon, his father; and thereafter the heirs of said James, of the farm of Haltoun, Drumbulg, 2 pleuches. The Myrne of Collythie was set in same terms to the same. James Gordon of Prony was also tenant of Tornakelt in the Cabrach, ane pleuche, for which he payis yearlie maill Twentie pound maill.

In same parish we find Mr Alex. Gordoun, tenant of Bagagartye, ane pleuche, paying a considerable rent, which is detailed; and I think this may be Alexander of Blèlack in Cromar. He was also tenant at the time of Craigulie in parish of Dunbennan, ane pleuche, paying almost a similar rent to Bagagartie, with the note in margin, “Redeimit at Witsunday 1591: sett for 19 years after the redemption.”

The leases of that period often contained clauses of redemption. A little later wadsets became common, and led to the ruin of many

It will be remembered that Alexander of Blèlack is said to have bought the lands of Pronie and got sasine in Culdrain in 1618 and in 1632. It seems probable enough that Blèlack’s brother should meet and marry Knockespock’s daughter, and also become tenant of Craigulie, and get sasine therein in 1620. (See Sasine, 20 Nov. 1620.)

But whatever may have been the parentage of George Gordon of Noth, he got sasine in Over and Nether Knockespock 26 June 1642, and as “George Gordon, now of Knockespock,”

sasine in the lands of Knockespock, 20 Feb. 1650.

It will be seen from the above researches that there is a lack of definite information available to prove the descent of the lairds of Knockespock about the middle of the 17th century. Unfortunately, the difficulty is not less when we come to the next two lairds, father and son, both John Gordons, the younger of them better known as "John Gordon of Glenbucket."

I hoped that the Register of Arms at the Lyon Office might give help to trace to which family of Gordons one of the lairds of Knockespock in the second half of the 17th century belonged. The present Lyon has kindly informed me: "John Gordon of Knockespock recorded arms about 1672-78; that is to say, he sent in his arms to the Lyon when the present Register was begun." No descent is given in the entry.

"In the case, however, of Adam Gordon of Glenbucket, which is the next entry in the Register, he is said to be descended from Rothiemay." This Glenbucket was of the Park family, cadets of Cairnborrow; and the arms given as his are:—"Azure, a saltire between three boars' heads erased *or*, within a bordure counter-company of the *second* and *first*.

The arms of Gordon of Knockespock given in the "Ordinary of Arms, 1st Edition," are:—"Azure, a pheon between three boars' heads erased *or*"; and they are followed by the arms of Gordon of Cairnfield, which are in exactly the same terms.

Now, the old Gordons of Cairnfield were descended from Mr William Gordon of Cairnfield, 2nd son of John Gordon of Buckie; and the first Gordon of Knockespock, William Gordon, was a younger brother of Alexander Gordon, first of Buckie, and uncle of Mr William Gordon of Cairnfield. (Balb. MS., p. 65.) Hence it is probable that John Gordon, who acquired Knockespock in 1663, was of the same stock as the earlier lairds, although there is no evidence to prove this, or to which minor branch he belonged. I also infer that the old panel now at Knockespock probably had a pheon between the three boars' heads.

If this conjecture be correct, "Old Glenbucket" was descended from an old branch of Gordon of Buckie.

The Sasine Registers record many transactions in land in the parish of Clatt, but the

extracts afford little help in the matter of genealogy: perhaps I may give some further on.

If we assume that George Gordon, previously of Noth, and laird of Knockespock, was still earlier of Cracullie, some difficulty arises, as already stated, with respect to his marriage or marriages and his issue.

The wife of George Gordon, who got sasine in Craigullie, 9 November 1620, was Bessie Gordon, Knockespock's sister; and the wife of George Gordon, who got a charter of Auld Noth and sasine there, 4 June 1638, was Jean Anderson.

According to the Balbithan MS., p. 43, George Gordon of Cracullie had by his marriage to Bessie Gordon "three sons and daughters, viz., William, James, and George Gordons; the daughters' names are not given. There is no mention of a son John, and there is no *retour* of the John that succeeded him. George's successor may possibly have been a grandson, or a son by his second marriage, supposing the sons by the first predeceased their father without leaving male issue; but I think this very improbable.

We shall find that in 1663 John got a disposition in his favour from a Mr Patrick Anderson, possibly a relative of Jean Anderson, and Patrick may have had a wadset of the lands.

It may be added here that George Gordon, 5th laird, who got a sasine in Over and Nether Knockespock in 1642, was probably deceased by 1663, and that he was succeeded by a John Gordon, whether a relative or not I find no evidence sufficient to determine; but perhaps he was a connection by marriage.

PERHAPS THIRD LINE, PERHAPS FIRST LINE  
REVIVED.

JOHN GORDON, VI. OF KNOCKESPOCK, also  
of Glenbucket or part thereof.

JOHN GORDON, VII. OF KNOCKESPOCK, and  
of Glenbucket, who sold Knockespock, and  
was later of Glenbucket.

JOHN GORDON, VI. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

It has been already mentioned that in an old Genealogy of Thomas Gordon of Daach, quoted in "Scottish Notes and Queries," Vol. III., 2nd Series, p. 139, John Gordon of Glenbucket, who "was attainted for high treason, being concerned in ye rebellion 1745," was the grandson of

George Gordon of Noth, who was descended from William Gordon of Balveny, one of the sons of the said Thomas of Daach. I can find nothing to corroborate this view, nor to support the further statement that George Gordon of Noth purchased the lands of Glenbucket from Gordon of Glenbucket, which in no way accords with the Poll Book of Aberdeenshire. On the other hand, it seems to me probable that John Gordon, the successor of George, purchased first Knockespock, and later Glenbucket. An extract from the sasine register, dated 2nd December 1663, shows that on 13th October preceding, John Gordon got a disposition of Knockespock granted by a Mr Patrick Anderson.

I propose to give here some account of the estate of Glenbucket, which belonged for many years to cadets of the Park family, and it is interesting to note the changes of ownership thereof from an early period.

Glenbucket, or a large part of it, being in the lordship of Strathdon and Earldom of Mar, belonged from a very early date to the Earls of Mar, and in time came into possession of Robert, Lord Erskine, by service as heir in 1438; but his rights were disputed by the Crown and his service set aside in 1457. The Earldom reverted to the Crown, which from time to time made various grants to subjects, and the lands were lost to the Erskine family till 1565, when Queen Mary granted the Earldom and lands of that lordship and lands of the Lordship of Garioch to John, Lord Erskine, who became 19th earl of Mar.

But meantime several important grants had been made to others, including a very extensive one to Alexander Elphinstone and his spouse, the son of Sir John Elphinstone of Elphinstone by charter from King James IV. in 1507, of the lands of Invernochty, Ballebeg, Glennochty, Invernethy, Ledmahoy, Culquhony, and Culquharry in Strathdon; and also by another charter in same year to Alexander Elphinstone of the above lands, with the addition of those of Skellater, forest of Corgarff, lands of Fine-lost, Balquhan, and Belnaboth in Glenbuchat, Ballintamore, &c., with the forest of Badenzonc and Kilvalauch, with several others mentioned, in the Lordship of Strathdon. All of these lands were apparently parts of the barony of Kildrummy.

On the restoration of the Erskines, after about 160 years' exclusion, John, Earl of Mar, got a

decision in his favour on his claim to the said barony of Kildrummy, which resulted in a compromise to the effect that the Elphinstones should ratify a reduction of their charters, and renounce all right to the castle and lands of Kildrummy, the Earl undertaking to pay them 48,000 merks. (See Mackintosh's *Historic Earls and Earldoms of Scotland*, pp. 41-58.)

But besides lands belonging to the Earldom there were Kirk lands in the parish of Glenbucket (erected into a parish in 1473), which in time came to be known as "Kirktown of Glenbucket." These lands belonged to the Bishopric of Aberdeen; for Glenbucket was of old ecclesiastically a chapelry of the Church of Logy, in Mar; and on the formation of a parish the church of Glenbucket was to be served by a resident parochial chaplain, who was to have the church land and chapeltone, with the great tithes, as well of Chapeltone as of the town of Balnaboth in Glenbucket, belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Aberdeen, with altarages and other minor emoluments, which of old belonged to the Vicar of Logy, and with 20s. Scots yearly from the Vicar of Logy, in respect of his release from the cure of Glenbucket. (Reg. Episc. Aberd., I., pp. 307-309, apud Ant. A. and B., V., p. 449.)

Accordingly, in 1549, the President and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen (in the absence of the Dean) granted a charter of feu farm in favour of Alexander Thomulson of the town and glebe of the Vicarage of Glenbucket, and of the ailhouse and ailhouse crofts. (Ant. A. and B. *ibid.*, and R.M.S., III., No 589.) Date of Ch. 3 August 1549, date of Confirmation 24 July 1585. Glenbucket and Kirktown of Glenbucket were separate estates in 1695.

Soon after the Reformation, on 8 December 1582, we find Arthur Skene, Vicar of the Parish Church of Glenbucket, who granted in feu farm to Alex. Forbes, commonly called Allaster Forbes, son of John F. in Colquharrie, the teindis of the Kirketoun and Kirk Glebe of the Vicarage of Glenbucket, with the ailhouse and crofts, reserving the liferent of the shadowy half to Robert Thomulson, son and heir of the said Alex. Thomulson. This charter was confirmed by K. James VI. by a charter under the Great Seal, dated Falkland, 24 July 1585 [R.M.S., III., No. 589]. (*Ibid.*)

Only a few years later, in 1591, these church lands were alienated under a "Contract betwix

Jhone Gordoun, appearand of Carrinbarrow, and Alaster Thomesoun, alias Mwesoun, of the Kirkton of Glenbuchyet." It is dated at Edinburgh, 19 August 1591. The agreement bears that Alaster Thomesoun was the "oy and air," at the least appearand air, of umquhile Alexander Thomesoun of the Kirkton of Glenbuchyet, his guidschir; and that the said Allaster Thomesoun has sold to the said John Gordoune all and haill the town and landis called the Kirkton of Glenbuchyet, for which the latter obliged himself to pay the sum of 200 merkis usual money of this realm. Abridged from the Register of Deeds, Vol. XXXVIII., fol. 145, MS. Gen. Reg. Ho., Edin. (Antiq. A. and B., IV., p. 775.)

John Gordoun shortly afterwards acquired additional lands in the same parish; for on 3rd April 1594 John Gordoun, fair of Carnburrow, and Helen Carnegy, his wife, were infeft in the lands of Easter and Wester Inverbuchties, before these, among other, witnesses, Patrick Leslie of Kincraigie, John Forbes of New, Robert Coutts, fair of Ouchtercowl, and James Abercrombie, fair of Persie. Original in charter room at Duff House. (Ant. A. and B., IV., p. 450.)

In 1592, we find mention of the name of "Johnne Gordoun of Glenbushet, younger of Carnborrow," in the Register of the Privy Council as relaxed from the horn, being one of those who were alleged to have been concerned in the burning of Donibristle and the slaughter of the Earl of Moray. (Reg. P.C., 16 March 1592.) A week previously his name occurs in connection with the same matter in the same Register as "Johnne Gordoun, younger of Carnborrow." Both "John G. of Cairnborrow" and his son John are mentioned occasionally in the Register. The son seems to have succeeded to Cairnborrow, but not to have retained it Gordon of Balbithan says that John, the eldest son, was laird of Cairnborrow and Edinglassie: but that William, the third son, coft Cairnborrow; and a little further on he speaks of John as Laird of Cairnborrow and representative of the family of Cairnborrow. John married twice, first "a daughter of the laird of Waterton (Bannerman)," and, secondly, "the lady Benum and lady Foveran." (Balb. MS., p. 34.) Query—Was Helen Carnegy Lady Foveran as relict of Robert Turing, and Lady Benum because her husband bought Benholm?

Cairnborrow, however, seems to have been

wadsetted or sold to a William Gordon, son of John Gordon of Tulligreig, Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen, who was Commissary of Moray, and father of Alexander Gordon, one of the lads implicated in the rebellion at the Grammar School, Old Aberdeen, in 1612. William Gordon, with his son and heir, Alexander, and Helen Coutts, spouse of the latter, got sasine in Carnborow and Broadland 6 July 1625. (Aberd. Sasines, and see "Rec. of Aboyne," p. 236.) I take John of Tillygreig to be the same person as John G. of Bouges or Boiggs, of the Knockespoock family.

John of Edinglassie had by his first wife, — Bannerman, issue as follows:—

1. William, who is said by Balbithan to have got Rothiemay and the stock of Cairnborow.  
 2. Adam, who became Sir Adam Gordon, Knight, of Park, Glenbuichet, [?] Innermarkie, [?] Edinglassie, and Auchenhandoch. (Balb. MS.)  
 3. John, laird of Innermarkie, Edinglassie, &c., besides two daughters, of whom one married the laird of Brux, the other Robert Coutts, laird of Achterfoull [Auchtercoul]. I have added the words in brackets above.

John, by his *second* wife, Helen Carnegie, relict of Robert Turing of Foveran, had no issue. (Balb. MS.) Dr Temple, in the "Thanage of Fermartyn," refers to charters granted to Robert Turin and Helen Carnegie in 1556 and 1563, and to Robert Turin (being still alive) in 1579-80, and witness to retour of Innes of Ardgrain; and gives date of her first marriage as "circa 1547."

As already stated, John Gordoun acquired Glenbuchet in 1591, and Easter and Wester Inverbuchties in 1594, and at the latter date his wife's name is mentioned as being infest therein along with him, and one of the witnesses was Robert Coutts, lair of Ouchtercowl.

Balbithan says that "he built the house of Glenbuicket, and that his wife's name is upon it: that he coft the lands of Benum [Benholm], had also Coffurach, Tynet, and Tulloch in the Enzie: that he sold the lands of Benum again, and with the money thereof assisted his two eldest sons to buy the lands and estates of Rothemay and Park from the Lord Salton (Abernethie), which cost them very dear, not only the price of the lands, but also continual trouble and law pleas, and the life and blood of two worthy gentlemen, lairds of Rothemay, the father and the son successively. Their father

died in peace in the house of Edinglassie, and was honourably buried in the Kirk of Edinglassie, but should have been in the Kirk of Botarie, the ordinary burial-place of their family and good ancestors."

It may be noted here that Rothiemay was sold by Abernethy of Saltoun to Sir William Stewart of Killeith in 1610, who re-sold the lands to John Gordon of Cairnborrow, or his son, William, who at any rate became laird of Rothiemay.

John Gordon of Cairnborrow in his later days seems to have been known as "of Edinglassie." His second son, Adam, became Sir Adam of Park, and his third son became John of Invermarkie. He seems to have contracted a third marriage, and espoused Elizabeth Wishart, who is mentioned in the following charter, and John, her husband, seems to have been deceased by 6 February 1624, if not earlier:—

The King confirmed at Edinburgh on that date a charter, dated Aberdeen, 15 June 1620, granted by Patrick, Bishop of Aberdeen, and the Dean and Chapter of Aberdeen, ratifying a charter granted by Robert Innes of Balveny to the deceased John Gordoun, formerly of Benholm, and afterwards of Edinglassie, and to Elizabeth Wishart, his spouse, of the town and lands of Dumeathis, with the Brewhouse and pendicle called Lettachoirne (or Feathorne), in the diocese of Aberdeen, and Sheriffdom of Banff, to be held by the said John and Elizabeth in conjunct fee, and the heirs lawfully procreated between them, whom failing by John Gordoun of Invermarkie, younger son of the said John, his heirs male and assigns whomsoever, irredeemably of the deceased Peter, Bishop of Aberdeen, in feu ferme, with a clause of novodamus by the said Peter in favour of the said John and Elizabeth. Date of Charter 15 June 1620.

Sir Adam Gordon, John's second son, got sasine in Glenbucket 11 June 1620; John G. of Innermarkie got a sasine in 1621, apparently in June, but I have not got the details: he got another apparently in July 1625; and Sir Adam another in Innerbuchties in 1628. John of Invermarkie was served heir of provision to John of Carneborrow, his father, in the town and lands of Edinglassie, with the fulling mill, town, and lands of Ovir Glenmarkie with Bowplaces and privilege of fue barony within the lordship of Balveny. AE. 35s., NE. £7: the town and lands of Tumethis with the brewhouse and pendicle called Lettachoirne, within the diocese

of Aberdeen, E. 22l. (Banff Spec. Serv., 4 Oct. 1628.)

Sir Adam is known rather as "of Park" than "of Glenbuchat." He was twice married, his first wife being Christian Gordon, daughter of the laird of Gicht, from whom were descended the Gordons of Park. His second wife was Helen Tyrie, daughter of the laird of Drumkilbo. By her he had 3 sons, viz.:—1. Patrick Gordon of Glenbuchat. 2. Francis, who went to Poland and died there. 3. A son, who, according to Balbithan, was father of the Tutor of Glenbucket; and the wife of the latter was, we know, Agnes Gordon, daughter of the laird of Badinsooth. (Balb. MS.)

Patrick G. of Glenbucket, the eldest of these three brothers, married Jean, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Arbuthnot of that ilk, and relict of Alexander Burnett, younger of Leys. She is mentioned as "Jean Arbuthnott, now Lady Glenbucket," in the will of Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, father of the deceased Alexander, dated 8 December 1652, in which Sir Thomas speaks of "my umquhill son, Alexander, his children begotten on Jean Arbuthnott, now Lady Glenbucket." (Family of Burnett of Leys, pp. 277-9.)

Adam of Glenbucket, son of Patrick, married Jean Douglas, daughter of Douglas of Glenbervie, and had by her Adam, called Captain Adam, who, according to the Balb. MS., "died in Holland of a decay"; Lieutenant Robert Gordon, said to be "alive in 1731"; and Ensign Alexander Gordon, "alive in 1731." It may be noted, too, that John, "the Tutor of Glenbucket," had by Agnes Gordon also three sons, viz.:—John, Alexander, and little Captain Adam. (Balb. MS.) The question naturally arises who was the pupil to whom John was Tutor. I presume it was Adam, afterwards Captain Adam, son of Adam G. and Jean Douglas, a near relative on John's father's side; or on the other hand that the pupil was John G., yr. of Knockespock, afterwards "Old Glenbucket," a nephew of John, the Tutor's wife, Agnes Gordon—her sister, Mary, was wife of John of Knockespock, elder, and as far as I can see, mother of "Old Glenbucket." Having made out a rough copy of descent in tabular form, the latter seems to me the more probable.

We learn from the Poll Book (1695-6) that Adam of Glenbucket was then deceased, and that "the valuation of that part of Glenbucket

which belonged to the umquhil Adam G. of Glenbucket, was £740; and that Adam Gordon, his son, having renounced to be air to his deceast father before the Sheriff of Aberdeen and denyes to be heretor, is pollable only as a gentleman in £3 Scots of general poll." Thirteen holdings are mentioned, and in the upper part of the Glen, Badenyon, and others. We learn further that Jean Douglas was "lyverentrix of Glenbucket," and Robert and Alexander are the sons, Margaret, Helen, and Jacobina the daughters; "all these fyve children are unprovyded (Poll Book, Vol. I., pp. 517-18). These seem to be Jean Douglas's children.

But at the same date, John Gordon of Kirkton of Glenbucket's valuation is also given as being £45; his wife . . . . [sic] Elizabeth his daughter: their poll 6s. each. I am inclined to take this John to be identical with John of Knockespock (1663), whose wife was Mary Gordon, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Baden-scotth.

John Gordon, the "Tutor of Glenbucket," is mentioned under Town of Peterhead [Vol. I., p. 569], his valued rent being given up at Methlick: his lady, Agnes Gordon; his son, Alexander; and his daughters, Elizabeth, Helen, and Jean Gordons. This John seems to be the John G. who was also of Erdo, parish of Methlick; his valuation £340 (Poll Book, II., pp. 224-25). Methlick, however, here appears to be a mistake for Logiebuchan, as it is described in Poll Book and valuation given (Poll Book, II., 224-5).

On the whole, it seems probable that Adam Gordon, the husband of Jean Douglas, sold that part of Glenbucket which belonged to him, subject to her liferent; and I take the purchaser to have been the John Gordon, who got sasine in Knockespock in 1663, and the John Gordon of Knockespock whose valuation in the parish of Clatt is given in the Poll Book as £225. He was at the same time principal tenant of the lands of Arclach, parish of Dunbennan. His poll there was £9 6s. 8d. His family—Mary Gordon, his wife; John Gordon, his eldest son, aged 20; Alexander, his second son, aged 8; Elizabeth, his daughter, aged 12; poll, 6s. each (Poll Book, Vol. I., p. 467.) These entries must refer to a man of means.

I take this Mary Gordon to be the daughter of Patrick Gordon of Baden-scotth (see Balb. MS. under "Terpersie," p. 48).

In confirmation of this point I find that Sir



Alexander Cuming of Culter, writing to Mr Alex. Thonison of Portlethen, "his doer," on 7 July 1720, in reference to a proposed purchase of lands, and in particular of Glenbucket, expresses the "hope that Barns has concluded a bargain, for he does not desire to be consulted about the priece," and adds "that what Barns and Portlethen agreed to, he himself would stand to, though Glenbucket be his nephew." Barns was James Gordon of Barns, son of Patrick Gordon of Badinscot, and *brother of Mary Gordon*, the wife of John G. of Knockespock. Thus Barns was uncle of John G., yor. of Knockespock and of Glenbucket. Sir Alexander Cuming's letter will be given in full further on under "Old Glenbucket."

The object of this long digression, for which some apology may be thought due, is to endeavour to show who the laird of Knockespock was that succeeded George of Knockespock about 1663. I hold certainly not George's son. From the above extracts I am much inclined to identify John Gordon, whose valuation is given in the parish of Clatt as £225, with John Gordon, first of "Kirkton of Glenbucket" and "elder of Knockespock," and later also "of Glenbucket elder," by the end of the century, especially as the name of his wife is given in the Poll Book at the place quoted as Mary Gordon, and his eldest son's name as "John, aged 20." Old Glenbucket mentions in a letter, which will be given below, dated August 1747, that his age was 74, and that he was old and infirm. This would make him 22 in 1695-6.

If this view is correct, we have here the descent of John Gordon of Glenbucket of 1715 and 1745. I think, too, that John Gordon, his father, may have been a son of Captain John Gordon, the brother of William Gordon of Knockespock, or a grandson of Robert Gordon in Clatt, the uncle of Captain John. In either of these cases he was a direct descendant of the early lairds, and recovered the family estate of Knockespock. Further, if he was a son of the said Captain John Gordon, his mother was probably a sister of Colonel Nathaniel Gordon of Ardlogie, of the Gicht Gordons. (Balb. MS. p. 17.) It would be very interesting if proof could be got that "Old Glenbucket" had some of the old Gicht blood in him.

I may here mention, however, that I find in a copy of a pedigree of the Glenbucket family, which I understand was either framed by or in

possession of the late Mr C. Dalrymple, and was lent to me by Colonel Allardyce of Culquoich, that a *daughter* of Sir Adam Gordon of Glenbucket by his second wife, Helen Tyrie, married Gordon of Knockespock, and the words "a quo Glenbucket" are there added; but I think it improbable that such a marriage took place, and that it is pretty certain that this John of Knockespock's wife was Badinscoth's daughter.

The eldest son of Sir Adam by his 2nd wife was Sir John Gordon of Park; the second son, Patrick G. of Glenbucket, the father of Adam G., who married Jean Douglas, Glenbervie; but there was a younger son, who married and was the father of the John Gordon, *Tutor* of Glenbucket, who married Agnes Gordon, Badinscoth; also a daughter, Patrick's sister, and sister of the father of the Tutor. *She* is said to have married Gordon of Knockespock: if so, and if this same Knockespock and the Tutor married two sisters (Badinscoth's daughters), I presume it follows that the Tutor's aunt must have been the *first* wife of John G. of Knockespock. I think all this hypothesis very improbable, and still more so (judging by the Poll Book), that "Old Glenbucket" was her son; indeed, I hold that Sir Alex. Cuming's letter proves that this was not the case.

Again, it should be remembered that Balbithan himself was of the Park Gordons, and, writing about comparatively near relatives and contemporaries. His statements are fairly explicit, and he gives no hint of "Old Glenbucket" being of Park descent, writing also probably more than ten years after 1715; so if a daughter of Sir Adam Gordon of Glenbucket did marry a Gordon of Knockespock, I think it must be one that never succeeded. I have already referred to Balbithan's statements being confirmed by the Poll Book.

It is probable that John of Knockespock acquired Glenbucket by degrees, beginning with the Kirktown. There can be no doubt that in the beginning of the 18th century John Gordon of Glenbucket was served heir to his father, John Gordon of Knockespock.

The sasines given above show that John Gordon of Knockespock got a sasine therein, dated 13 October 1663, registered 2 December following, on a Disposition to him granted by Mr Patrick Anderson of Knockespock of the town and lands of Knockespock, Nether Knockespock, Sowiefourt, Craig with mill therein, in

the parish of Rhynie, dated as above. One of the witnesses was a James Gordon, brother of the said John. Six years later we find this John of Knockespock granting a Renunciation of a wadset made to him by Patrick G. of Badinscoth of part of the Barony of Auchterless. (See sasine given above.) One of the witnesses to this renunciation was John Gordon, the Tutor of Glenbucket, of the old Glenbucket family, and the husband of Agnes Gordon, Badinscoth. Their issue, according to the Balb. MS., p. 37, was (1) George, (2) Alexander, (3) Little Captain Adam Gordon.

John, the laird of Knockespock, according to the same MS., p. 48, married [Mary] daughter of Patrick Gordon of Badinscoth, and sister of the Agnes just mentioned, and by her he had issue two sons and one daughter, viz. :—

1. John, his eldest son, who, according to my view, was as John Gordon of Glenbucket served heir to his father, John Gordon of Knockespock, on 26 January 1705. As to the terms of the service, see a little further on. He was born apparently about 1675, being aged 20 in 1695, when his father, styled John Gordon of Knockespock, was principal tenant of Arelach, parish of Dunbennan, being an heritor of £225 of valued rent in Clatt parish. (Poll Book, I., 467, already quoted.)

2. Alexander, b. about 1687 (same authority)

1. Elizabeth, b. about 1683 (same authority).

The service of John, junior, in 1705, which will be given below, shows the extent of the property of Knockespock at that date.

In the Records of the Kirk-Session of Clatt we find the name of John Gordon of Knockespock entered as an elder of the parish in 1663-4, in 1667-9, and in 1680-2.

Further mention of him is also found as follows:—"John Gordon, an elder in Clatt," was "one of several elders present at what was called "the Exercise of Alford," held at Clatt, 21 July 1680. ("Rec. of the Exerc. of Alford." Hist. Papers relative to Jacobite Period. New Spald. Club, Vol. I., p. 316.)

It may be here noted that in the list of noblemen and gentlemen of the shire of Aberdeen who convened within the laich tolbuith of Aberdeen on 2 December 1659, the name of any laird of Knockespock does not occur; that of "Glenbucket," with "[Patrick Gordon]" added in brackets is found there, also Laird Auchlesne [Query—who?], John Gordon of Blaelock, Tar-

persie Gordoune, Harie Gordoune of Auchleyne, Patrick Gordoune of Cultis, and Laird of Craig, Gordoune, of those belonging more or less to the country near Clatt. ("Rec. of Aboyne," p. 322.)

In a list of heritors of Aberdeenshire who gave bond for good behaviour in Strathdon in Oct. 1699 occurs "John Gordon of Knockespock, his men in Glenbucket." (Notes from "Historical Papers relative to the Jacobite Period, 1699-1750," by Colonel James Allardyce, Vol. I., 15.)

In a bond given by heritors in the Presbyteries of Kincardine and Alford to concert measures for the peace of the country, 26 April 1700, occur the names of John Gordon of Knockespock (younger), George Gordon of Terpersie, John Gordon of Law, and James Gordon of Newbigging. The last-mentioned was, I presume, the eldest son of Harry of Auchlyne, and brother of George Gordon, who a short time afterwards purchased Knockespock. (Ibid., p. 20.)

"John Gordon, elder of Knockespock," was one of many heritors who met to concert measures for securing themselves against depredations and robberies in April 1700. (Ibid., p. 22.)

On the other hand, we find Adam Gordoun of Glenbucket, along with several elders, present at a meeting held at Glenbucket, 27 July 1687. (Ibid., p. 383.)

It seems certain that Patrick Gordoun of Glenbucket was succeeded as laird by his son Adam, who married a daughter of Douglas of Glenbervie, and had a son, Captain Adam Gordon, who was deceased by 1695, and had a son, Adam, who was considered laird of Glenbucket, and held liable as such to pay poll tax as proprietor of the estate, but that he renounced to be air to his deceast father before the Sheriff of Aberdeen and denied to be a heritor; and that this point was allowed, and he paid tax only as a gentleman. I find no retour of his service as heir. As has been argued above, I infer that John G. of Kirktown of Glenbucket, being identical with John of Knockespock, thereupon acquired the rest of the lands of Glenbucket, either through a wadset or by purchase, and perhaps made that property over to his son (who seems to have been then a young man), but retained for himself Knockespock, and his own designation as laird thereof. It must be admitted that the son continued to be called "younger of Knockespock" up to the time he succeeded his father.

In confirmation of this view I have received from Rev. Andrew Meldrum, minister of Logie-rait, just in time to be added here the following sasine, for which I am much indebted to him:—

“1701 —. John Gordon, elder of Knockespock, and John Gordon, younger of, his son, sasine of the lands of Inverbucket and others, viz.—Milntown, Ballandmoir [now Bellamore], Balnacraig, Balnaboth, Badinzone, Reillwallochs, Ballachdowie, and Ballaglach [Balnaglack].”

Mr Meldrum’s mother, a Gordon, and his wife both claim some connection with the Glenbucket Gordons. The names of places mentioned in this sasine are nearly the same as those in the sasine of Patrick Gordon of Glenbucket, dated 12 February 1642.

John, senior, of Knockespock died in October 1704. (Thomson’s *Retours of Special Services*, 26 January—5 February 1705.)

JOHN GORDON VII. of Knockespock was certainly “younger of Knockespock,” and was also of Glenbucket at the time of his succession.

His service as heir is as follows, as taken from “*Libri actorum curiae Vicecomitatis de Aberdeen MS. in archivis ejusdem*,” apud *Antiq. Aberd. and Banff* :—

“Jan. 26, 1705. Special service of John Gordoun of Glenbucket as nearest heir to his father John Gordoun of Knockespock in . . . . the town and lands of Over Knockespock, with the manor place, gardens, &c., and outsettis . . . . called Suyfoord and Longphuird, and also the town and lands of Nether Knockespock called the Newton of Knockespock, with the mill, mill lands, astrict multures, . . . . houses, &c., with power of [digging] the peats and turfs in the moss of Auchlyn, and carting, selling, and carrying away the same and pertinents whatsoever—lying in the parish of Clatt and shire of Aberdeen: with the tithes of said lands and vicarage tithes—lately held of the Bishop of Aberdeen, and now held of the Queen—in feu ferme fee and heritage perpetually for yearly payment of 24 pounds 4s. and 4d. at two terms of the years . . . . and doubling said feu ferme on the entry of each heir or assignee to the lands and othersforesaid with the pertinents for every other burden.” (Antiq. A. and B., Vol. IV, 500-1.)

This laird is hardly known as “of Knockespock,” but he filled a conspicuous position as “Gordon of Glenbucket” for nearly half a century.

He is said to have married a daughter of Forbes of Boyndlie (a cadet of Monymusk) in 1731: if so, I presume she was his second wife.

He had certainly a son John, who is described in 1746 as follows:—"Son to Glenbucket, Auchrechan: raised men for the rebels: took the name of Colonel, but was not above a week with them."

He had also a grandson "William Gordon, grandson of Glenbucket, Auchrechan: was a Captain in the rebel army." (See List of "Prince Charlie's Friends" given in "Historical Notes" by D. Murray Rose, 1897.)

Glenbucket was a consistent and enthusiastic supporter of the Stuart cause throughout a long life, and took an active part in both the Jacobite risings of 1715 and 1745: his career is a matter of history. He fought in the first line at Sheriffmuir along with the Captain of Claranald, Glengarry, Sir John Maclean, Brigadier Ogilvy, and two brothers of Sir Donald MacDonald of Sleat. He had a General's commission in 1738, for Mr Edgar wrote to Glenbucket a letter dated Rome, 22 December 1747, stating—"The King sends to the Prince the duplicate of your commission of Major-General. I find by His Majesty's book of entrys that the one lost was dated 28 Jany. 1738, so the one now sent is of the same date: but you will excuse its not being writ in parchment, on which I have never yet writ any commission of that kind." (Stuart Papers apud Brown's "Hist. of the Highlands.") This letter is marked with an asterisk to denote that it was copied from the original.) Glenbucket was charged by the Government of having forced men into rebellion; and many writers have accused him of using cruel compulsion: can any one reasonably doubt that he thought he was only doing his duty in terms of his commission in impressing men that were unwilling for what he considered the King's service? Press-gangs for the British Navy were employed to a much later date.

There is an anecdote related by Captain Burt in "Burt's Letters from the Highlands" which must, I think, refer to this Glenbucket: it belongs to the early part of his career.

"Gordon, laird of Glenbucket, had been invested by the D[uke] of G[ordon] in some lands in Badenoch, by virtue, I think, of a wadset or mortgage.

"These lands lay among the Macphersons, but the tenants of that name refused to pay rent

to the new landlord or to acknowledge him as such. Glenbucket thereupon took steps to eject them, but the tenants resolved to put a stop to his suit.

“Five or six young fellows, sons of gentlemen, got into his hut, expressed regret for the dispute, their readiness to acknowledge him as their landlord and to pay him their rent, at the same time urging him to withdraw his process, and that thus all would go well. Meantime they were gradually getting nearer to the bed on which he was sitting, and suddenly fell upon him, slashing and stabbing him with their dirks.

“Glenbucket, however, though badly wounded, got down his broadsword from the back of his bed, and beat off and drove the whole pack before him. The Duke took up his cause, sent troops, and forced these assailants to flee the country.”

Reference to the above event is made in the Introduction to 2nd Vol. “Hist. Papers, Jacobite Period,” p. xxii., New Spald. Club, and also in a letter from Andrew M’Pherson of Banchor to James Macpherson, the translator of Ossian, dated 17 May 1770, where he refers to “that barbarous attempt made by our people on Gordon of Glenbucket in the year 1725, the particulars of which, no doubt, you have frequently heard, when the Duke of Gordon, upon whose estate the Macphersons generally reside, determined to expell them out of it root and branch.” It would appear from this that Glenbucket returned to Badenoch after his banishment in 1716.

We find that Colonel Gordon was bailie to the Marquis of Huntly in 1715 (who succeeded to the Dukedom in 1716): his correspondence with the Marquis is given in “The Stuart Papers,” a volume of which relative to “the '15” has just been issued by the Historical MSS. Commission in the autumn of 1902.

The following is taken from a notice of the said volume in “The Aberdeen Free Press” of 8th August 1902:—

“The papers in the Scotch bundle do not begin till September [1715], the first being a commission to Colonel John Gordon to raise Lord Huntly’s men, dated the 12th September. That commission is as follows:—

“‘Aboyne. To require and empower you to raise such of the Marquis of Huntly’s men and following as he shall direct you, with their best arms and accoutrements, and to obey his Lord

ship's orders in your marching of them to join the King's forces, which will be on their march through Perthshire towards Stirling. You are likewise empowered to secure what arms and ammunition are in the hands of suspected persons in the neighbourhood of the said Marquis' countries, in which you are likewise to obey his orders.'

" During the next two days there are several letters to Col. John Gordon from Lord Mar, sending directions about raising men and ordering him to join at the rendezvous at Mullen in Athole, and also from Lord Mar to Glengarry. The letter from the Earl of Mar to John Gordon of Glenbucket is as follows:—' 1715, Sept. 4 (15). Invercall. Warrant I send by express the enclosed accounts just received from the south, which I have likewise done to the Marquis of Huntly. You are by all means to prevent the joining of these people in Ross with Grant's men but take care you do not meet with a ruffle. Forward the enclosed, which is of consequence, by a safe road to the Marquis of Seaforth, as soon as possible, that he may join his men immediately with my Lord Huntly. but till he do so you are to do your best with Lord Huntly's own men and those who will join you. I wrote to you by Glengarry. If he be with you when you get this, communicate it to him, and if he be gone, send a copy after him immediately, and you are to follow what directions he gives you. I expect to hear from you often, and that you lose no time now in going about the orders I gave you at Aboyne.

' Postscript.—If Borlome younger be in this country, show him this. Enclosed.'

" In connection with the same matter are the following letters:—

" ' The Earl of Mar to the Laird of Glengarry, 1715, September 11.—With the assistance of God I think we have a sure game if people's hearts do not fail them, but Invercall has infected a great many in Aberdeenshire, and some in Angus seem backward till the King land, and are terrified at the summonses they are soon to have. However, I hope when they see us together in arms, which they will now before their day of compearance, they'll take heart, but had they not had that to cheer them up what would have come of it? Postscript.—Be sure that neither waiting for those regiments nor surprising any or all of those outposts stop or re-

tard your march, and General Gordon shall be with you before the 24th which you mention. I believe Mullen in Athole will be the place of your meeting, but this ought not to be known'

*Holograph*

[Note.—This General Gordon is Maj. Gen. Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul.]

“‘The same to the same. 1715, September 15, at night. Invercall—I have met with abundance of difficulties and disappointments since you left me: and mostly occasioned by my ungrateful landlord, who, besides his own withdrawing, has done all the mischief by his bad example, malicious storys, and otherwise his weak understanding was capable of, though now, blest be God, I hope the worst of it is over. Lord Huntly acts the honourable part I expected of him, and Glenbucket, his baily, is very diligent. I have reason to hope that some of the Strathspey people will join him. Lord Huntly’s men of Badenoch, Strathavine, Glencoe, Glenrenis, Auchindoun, and Cabrach, as Glenbucket just now writes me, were in arms yesterday, and he writes me too of Clunie’s diligence, which, with what you write, makes me long to see him, and give him thanks in our Master’s name. The Athole people are ready against we come near them, and Lord Drummond is gone about his men, as I hope Earl Bredalbain and some others in Perthshire are busie about theirs. The Low Country gentlemen are mostly ready to join us upon the first advertisement. I have been doing all I can to bring my cwn people together.’

The remainder of the above letter refers to men raised in Strathdon and on Invercauld’s estates, and to other matters, including his expectation of “proclaiming the King here,” and setting up his standard by the following Wednesday, and his sending Glenbucket ‘a copy of our manifesto, which I have sent to London, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen to be printed and published as soon as they can, and when it’s generally seen I doubt not of its moving the hearts of most of our countrymen, and it will soon be confirmed by the King’s declaration.

“Several letters in the beginning of November relate to Colonel John Gordon’s operations in Fife. A list of the killed and the prisoners at Sheriffmuir is given. The invasion from the North, headed by Lords Sutherland and Lovat, and by the Grants, was so threatening that on Nov. 18 (29) Colonel John Gordon was sent to

raise all the men he could in Aberdeenshire and Banffshire to join James's army at Perth, but with orders to use his utmost endeavours to suppress and disperse all he should find appearing in those counties and northwards against James's interest.

"Several letters early in December to Colonel John Gordon relate to his endeavours to raise men, and three from Gordon himself describe his success in holding the line of the Spey against Lord Sutherland and the Grants and Frasers, and his refusal of the proposal sent him by Grant of Wester Elchies that both parties should retire to their own houses till the spring, and the backwardness of the people in joining him.

"The collection includes orders sent from Stirling on December 22 to Lord Lovat, desiring him and those with him to raise as many men as they could to prevent their neighbours from re-joining Lord Mar, and to attack them should they march south. On the other hand, Lord Huntly wrote to desire the Macdonalds and Camerons of Lochaber to raise their men and march with the utmost despatch, and the first letter of James after his arrival was to Lord Huntly to urge him to join Lord Seaforth and to lose no time in reducing Inverness.

"A letter from Lord Mar to Colonel John Gordon intimates the King's wish that General Echlin assist Lords Huntly and Seaforth in the reduction of Inverness. Lord Huntly was again urged to do his utmost to finish the campaign in the north and join the army at Perth. Huntly, however, prolonged his truce with Lord Sutherland. In a letter dated February 2, Lord Huntly invited Lord Lovat to join James's party, but on 11th February he wrote again that all his men were dispersed, and he himself was in concealment, and three days later he submitted to the Government, having received with their allowance from the Duke of Argyll assurances of life and fortune for himself and friends before he left Perth. Further letters deal with the retreat from Perth and the embarkation of James, one being James's letter of adieu of Scotland."

These letters show Glenbucket's good and faithful service in his master's cause.

The next one shows that Simon, Lord Lovat, had known him as a college friend, perhaps at the University of Aberdeen, perhaps at St

Omer's, and desired to avail himself of his good offices.

“Honourable Sir,—I presume so much on your old college acquaintance, yt. I offer you my most humble service by this letter and beg ye favour of you to grant your friendship and protection to ye Bearer, Mr M'Intosh of Blairigy, who is my relation, and any kindness you do him I shall take as done to myself, and I shall be proud to serve any person yt. you are concerned in, and you shall always find me, wt great esteem,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedt.  
and most humble Servant,  
(Sd.) LOVAT.”

Beaufort, ye of 1718.

[Copied from the original MS., as shown at the Highland and Jacobite Exhibition at Inverness, 1903, lent by Andrew Meldrum, M.A., Ballinluig.]

Some of the Culloden Papers contain passages which bear upon the question of the probability of Glenbucket's return to Scotland some years after 1715.

A Mr James Stewart, writing from Edinburgh to Mr Duncan Forbes, under date 8 Nov. 1716, says near the end of his letter, “As to the list of landed gentlemen, who have been in the Rebellion, and are either fled or skulking, I desire that they may be sent up with all despatch, seeing you need not wait the event of finding evidence against them: that being to be done either upon your own knowledge or common fame. And as to the list of evidence, I hope you will send it up as soon as it is possible to get it ready.” (Culloden Papers, Letter No. lxxxix.).

More than twenty years later there is a letter from the Lord Advocate to the Duke of Newcastle, dated Inverary in Argyllshire, 5 August 1729. *Inter alia*, he writes—

“I have not heard that any of the Pretender's adherents have lately come into Scotland from abroad, neither do I know of any that have come over this year except my Lady Southesk, who came over by His Majesty's permission, and Mr Fleeming, brother to Earl Wigton, who has lived in France upwards of 20 years, and came over last winter at his brother's desire, as I have been told, to be married.” [The Earl had no son, and evidently hoped his brother

would marry and have one: the brother succeeded, but died unmarried.] His Majesty has been acquainted that Mr Stewart, late of Inner-  
nity, and two or three others, attainted persons, came over to Scotland in his late Majesty's reign in hopes of being pardoned, and that having made application to the Crown by General Wade, who had instructions to receive submissions of such as seemed well disposed, they were permitted to live privately in the country, where they still remain very quiet and peaceable.

"I cannot at present think of any other of the Pretender's adherents, who came from abroad without previous leave into Scotland, except General Gordon: he indeed has been in this country upwards of three years: and your Grace may remember I acquainted you with his arrival at the time, with this circumstance, that he declared it to be his intention to live his remaining days peaceably at home: and that, tho' he was secure by the Laws, yet if his being in Scotland gave any umbrage to the Government, he would instantly return into voluntary exile: desiring me at the same time to give your Grace notice of his arrival and intention, which I accordingly did. The man has since that time lived inoffensive, so far as I can hear, at his house in the country." (Culloden Papers, No. exli.).

This must certainly refer to General Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul, who was one of those attainted for treason, but by being mis-named "Thomas" in the Act of Attainder of 1716, did not lose his estates. He escaped to France in 1717, but returned to Scotland in 1727, and lived there quietly.

A quotation from a "History of the Principal States of Europe from the Peace of Utrecht" by Lord John Russell, given in "Chambers' Hist. of the Rebellion, 1715-16, is as follows:—"In 1717 an Act of Grace was passed by the King and two Houses of Parliament, by virtue of which the Earl of Carnwath, Lords Widdrington, and Nairn were delivered from the Tower: seventeen other persons confined in Newgate, the prisoners in the Castles of Lancaster and Carlisle, and those in the Castles of Edinburgh and Stirling, including the Viscount of Strathallan and Lord Rollo, were likewise set free." Lord John then argues that "as much mercy was shown as was consistent with the safety of the established Government and the vindication of the rights of the people.

The Lord Advocate, Duncan Forbes's letters however show that very few of the Jacobites who had escaped abroad ventured to return to Scotland. But the next letter seems to imply that before the date of it Glenbucket had ventured to come home, and that his having done so was known.

Letter from Gen. Wade to the Lord Advocate. From my hut at Dalnacardoch, Aug. 27, 1729. Inter alia, he says—

"I have wrote to Willy Grant to be vigilant towards Gordon Castle, and to observe Glenbucket's motions, who, I think, is a dangerous fellow, and who, I believe will be ready to play the fool if he is any way encouraged by the agents from abroad. (Culloden Papers, No. cxlii).

This seems to have induced Duncan Forbes to go and see for himself.

The Lord Adv. to the Duke of Newcastle.

Inter alia, he mentions having "made a trip since his last through Strathearn to Badenoch, and from thence across the country to Gordon Castle. (Culloden Papers, No. cxliv.).

It is not clear whether General Wade meant that Glenbucket was in Scotland or not, but the attack made by some Macphersons in Badenoch is said to have been made in 1725.

The latter's home was in Banffshire in his later days, if he had one. "Old Glenbucket's" house is said to have stood at Kamdillyvaich [sic], near the pass and ford of Carnagoval on the Aven, (which is near the Conglass and Glen Brown), in the Tomintoul district, and on the road from Corgarff to the Braes of Abernethy. (See "Hist. Papers Jacobite Period" II., p. 545.) I have seen it stated elsewhere that he lived at St Bridget's, which is close to Tomintoul. Kamdillyvaik is probably for Kamdell-mhor (*i. e.* Kamdell-vohr) called Camdellmoor at p. 547 of same volume. The ford of Carnagoul is there mentioned: the Gaelic names were probably Cam-dail-mhor and Carn-a'-gobhail.

Some further interesting extracts from the "Culloden Papers" may be introduced here:—

From a letter from the Lord President to the Duke of Gordon, dated Culloden, 14 August 1745, showing that the former hoped that Glenbucket would not join in "the Rising"—

"I have some confidence in my old friend, Glenbucket's, prudence and temper, that if he hear of the thing" [viz., the Prince's landing

on the coast of Arisaig] he will give Glengarry good advice to prevent his certain destruction. and I doubt not he'll be ready to take it."

From a letter from Cluny Macpherson to the Lord President, dated Cluny, 18 August 1745—

"I read your Lo'p's letter to Killiehunly in his own absence; and it is certain that Glenbucket passed thorow this country, on his way to Glengarie, Wednesday last, he being seen and conversed with by severall of the country-men in his march that day; and Peter Gordon, sometime the Duke of Gordon's bailie and factor in this country went along with him, and he is not yet returned."

From a letter from Lord President to the Earl of Stair, dated Culloden, 20 August 1745—

"Since Sir John Cope left us, Glenbucket, with a few Highlanders, taking advantage of the D. of Gordon's state of health, which is at present bad, is in the neighbourhood of Strathbogie and amongst Diveronside, busy trying to levie men for the Pretender's service, and prowling about to intercept all intelligence. His success, according to the best of my information, is but indifferent as to his recruiting; no gentleman of any consideration has as yet joined him, and his money has been so scarce that he is levying a guinea upon the plough of land; but the diligence of his adherents is such, that most letters are intercepted," &c., &c.

*Note.*—The Lord President wrote on same date to Sir J. Cope to same effect. He wrote again to Sir John Cope from Culloden, 5 Sept. 1745. The following is a short summary of his letter. He tells him of the foot post to Inverness having been seized by the rebels, and having just come in and afforded information on various points. Among other items he stated that Glenbucket was not with the rebels, but had gone down to the low country to try to raise men, and that he had placed small guards in all the passes of the mountains to intercept intelligence.

In a letter from Sir John Cope to the Lord President, dated 10 September 1745, he mentions that Glenbucket has not above 300 men out of these parts.

The next is from a letter from Lord Lovat to the Lord President, dated 20 April 1745:—

"For Glenbucket and I had a quarrel ever since Glenbucket threatened the Stratherrick

people to bring down the force of Badenoch upon them if they did not pay their rents to Fraserdale. As to my cousin, Inveralachy, the character that your Lordship gives him is very just, for I do assure you that he is a gentleman of very good sense and understanding, and far from being a fool, and was so cautious and prudent in his proceedings and ordinary transactions as any that lives in the shire that he is in. Besides he knows his birth too well to go under Glenbucket's command on any consideration whatever; so that the part of the story attributed to him is as grossly false as any part of the story." (Culloden Papers.)

Shortly after the battle of Gladsmuir or Preston 21 September 1745, and Prince Charlie's occupation of Edinburgh, he was joined there on the 3rd of October by Lord Ogilvy, eldest son of the Earl of Airlie, with a regiment of about 600 men, and on the following day by Gordon of Glenbucket, now an old man, but as zealous as ever in his support of the Stuarts.

Glenbucket had received a commission as Major-General from James, his king, in 1738 (see Stuart Papers); but he was now contented with the colonelcy of the regiment he had just raised, in which his eldest son, John, was Lieutenant-Colonel, and his grandson, William, a Captain. Several of the other officers belonged to families that were his neighbours and friends in Strathaven. He brought with him to Edinburgh a body of about 400 men, which he had raised in Strathdon, Strathaven, Glenlivet, Auchindoun, and probably in the Cabrach.

When the Highland army, after reaching Falkirk in their retreat northwards under Lord George Murray in January 1746, was drawn up near Bannockburn, with Hawley's threatening and superior force then lying at Falkirk, and was expecting an attack from the latter, about 1000 or 1200 men were left under Gordon of Glenbucket to protect their trenches and continue the blockade of Stirling Castle. This was done on the 15 January old style.

The somewhat indecisive battle of Falkirk took place on the 17th, in which Hawley's troops suffered heavier loss than the Highlanders, and Hawley retreated to Edinburgh, acknowledging defeat. But shortly afterwards the English force, now under the command of the Duke of Cumberland, again advanced from Edinburgh at the beginning of February, and meantime the Prince, yielding to the advice of the chiefs and

superior officers of his army, had commenced his retreat to the North.

At Culloden Glenbucket's regiment was in column on the left of the second line, flanked by the Perth squadron of horse under Lords Strathallan and Pitsligo. After that disastrous defeat he effected his escape from the battlefield, and was hunted from place to place for many months, during which he eluded his pursuers by assuming the garb of a beggar and letting his beard grow. At last in the month of November he got on board a Swedish vessel and landed in Norway. An old, broken-down man, who had been attainted after 1715 and excepted from the Act of Indemnity passed in June 1747 in favour of many who had taken a subordinate part in the Rising of 1745-6, he lived in great poverty till his death about three years afterwards.

A very interesting memento of the old Colonel and the battle of Culloden is now in possession of Hugh Gordon Lumsden of Clova, Aberdeenshire, in whose museum there I saw it on 8 August 1903. It is an old-fashioned musket of the period, and has a label attached with the following inscription:—"Gordon, laird of Glenbucket, Captain of Prince Charles' Guard at Culloden, used this gun in that engagement. After the battle Glenbucket fled to France. His henchman, Begg, brought it back, and hid it in a moss when the Government took up the armament throughout the Scottish glens."

The gun escaped the minute search made under the disarming Acts until it could with safety be removed from its hiding place.

A photograph of Glenbucket's banner is given in Colonel Allardyce's interesting "Historical Papers," which I hoped on first sight might prove to bear the arms of his own family, but after further inspection and consulting a friend, skilled in heraldry, I find to be those of the Duke of Gordon, whose tenants and retainers from the Highland districts of His Grace's estates formed the regiment which Glenbucket raised.

The arms of Gordon of Glenbucket, as given in Sir James Balfour Paul's "Ordinary of Arms" were *azure* a saltire between three boars' heads erased *or*, within a bordure counter-company of the *second* and *first*; but there is no date to help one to determine which Glenbucket bore them. I have no doubt they belonged to Glenbuckets of the Park family. In Burke's

Armoury, Edition 1847, the arms are given thus:—"Gordon, Glenbucket, Scotland (a cadet of Rothemay)—az., a chevr. between three boars' heads eras. or, within a bordure counter-company of the *second* and *first*. Crest, a boar's head couped and erect, surmounted by an adder disposed *orleways*. Motto, *Victrix patientia*." No date. Probably both refer to the oldest Gordons of Glenbucket.

Although Glenbucket effected his escape from Scotland about seven months after the battle of Culloden, evidence was collected to be used against him in case of his capture. Depositions against Jacobites are given in Col. Allardyce's book, Vol. II., and at pp. 353-4 occur those against Glenbucket, of which the following is a summary:—

*Charles Campbell* deposed "that he saw him frequently at Edinburgh in October [1745] with the rebels in a highland dress and pistols, and march in a hostile manner at their head. That on 10 November he commanded about 200 of the Duke of Gordon's people at Redcliffe. . . That he is an old man much crouched."

*John Vere*, "that he went by the name of 'Glenbucket,' and answered to that name; rode on a little gray highland beast; marched with rebel army between Manchester and Wigan in December last."

*John Gray*, that "he was called 'General Gordon of Glenbucket'; that he was Commissioner of [ ] for the Pretender at the time of the battle of Falkirk in January last; that he had known Glenbucket eight years before; that he was a very old man."

*James Barclay*, "that he saw him act as General; that he was called 'General Gordon'; saw him march with the rebels from Edinburgh into England and back again to Glasgow all the way; that he is not very tall, but a very old man, and lies forward."

*John Hastie* deponed to his having seen him in arms in England at the head of a body of men of the rebel army from November to February, and knew him before the Rebellion.

The following very interesting letter, in which the old laird gives an account of himself, is No CXV. of "The Stuart Papers," published in the Appendix to Browne's "History of the Highlands," one copied from the original:—

"Mr Gordon of Glenbucket, commonly called 'Old Glenbucket,' to Mr Edgar—

"Dear Sir,—I doubt not you was surprised I neither writ since I came from Rome; but I unluckily left the key you gave me at parting, which I hope will plead my excuse, for I was looked pretty close to after I got home for some time by reason of representation of the Duchess of Gordon had given Sir Robert Walpole that I was gone to Rome, and her grounds were Mr Peter Grant, the Churchman (came with me to Rome), had waited of her at Newcastle, told her he expected me at Newcastle, and waited for me there to go with him to Rome. This story, indeed, was like to have brought me to trouble; but by assistance of friends I got over it, though indeed it obliged me to act very cautiously; yet by ways and means I made it my business to keep up a spirit amongst the King's friends until the Prince came, who I had the pleasure to wait off when arrived (old and infirm as I was) amongst the first, and continued with him till that fatal and unhappy day at Culloden, and since that time it is not possible to represent what dangers and fatigue His Royal Highness underwent; and for my part, all looks on me as a miracle that escaped, considering my situation of health and age. It would be too long a tale to give an account of all; but I thank God I got this length after all this misfortune has befallen me. I do not despair, but hope to live to see the King restored is my earnest prayer and wish. I am now a very poor man, 74 years of age, banished my country and attainted,—my house burnt, my wife and family obliged to leave the country where I lived, and go amongst her relations, and I (a word here illegible) [sic] supported meanly on their charity. The damned Government of England had such spite and malice against me, that when all was burnt, and taken away her back clothes and childrens, she got into a poor cottage, a tenant's house, there came a party to burn it, and did burn the next, which obliged her in the melancholy situation the children were. I had come out of a desert that morning, twelve miles from any country, where I had lain 48 hours under a rock, and had travelled terrible rocks and mountains in a prodigious rainy night; and after I had got a bit of meat, such as my wife had to give, I laid myself down on a little straw to rest, but behold I was not lain three minutes, when I was told there was a party within half-a-mile, which obliged me to make off in haste. The party came before I got to a hill on the

other side of a river, and burnt a house at the door where my wife and children staid, which obliged them to remove in all haste. I retired to a little wood and continued there till night, when I travelled till daybreak, and lay in a hill all the day. Some parties were near me searching; however, I was not found. When the night came I went to a poor man's house and changed my clothes with his rags, prevailed with poor man to go along with me, and he put me down to the coast in the low country and returned, where I turned beggar, and allowed my hair to grow on my face, but that could not save me. Whatever disguise I put myself in I had the misfortune to be suspected. Parties were sent from all places to search all the shires of Aberdeen and Banff for me, and not spare money to find me. In this way I continued for some months.

"At length I got a Swedish ship, and got myself privately in the night-time aboard on 25 November, and landed in Norway, where I fell very bad. I continued there till March. I took such roads through great mountains, rocks, and woods in stormy, snowy weather, travelled in a slade for 5 or 600 miles, travelled without horse, that before I got to Sweden was exhausted. I got to a place in Sweden called Stromstade—was able to go no further—took bed how soon I came there—fell in a fever for a month—nobody expected life for me—people sitting by me every night, still expecting when I should breathe out my last; yet it has pleased (God) to recover me, and I have got here where His Royal Highness does me great honour. There is such malice against me, that I understand they put a price of 1000 pounds on my head; but I hope to see the King restored and more heads go off or mine goes. I have troubled you too long with such unlucky story; and now I must tell you what troubles me more: all my loss is the commission which His Majesty was pleased to honour with in 1738 years, when I was at Rome, was taken amongst my papers, when my house was robbed and burnt, but am hopefull His Majesty will renew it. Its date, if I mind rightly, was the 2nd of February, when he was pleased to design me in the Major-General's commission, and old John Gordon of Glenbucket [sic], which approved of the commission I had from Earl Mar. I had not the boldness to apply to His Majesty myself (I must own I have not great assurance to demand

favours for myself); but my dear Mr Edgar, amongst all the rest of his many favours, does me the favour to speak to the King.

"I am hopeful he will do me the happiness to comply, and if it is my good fortune he does (for I esteem the honour more than anything this side of time), I would beg the commission should be writ on parchment, because paper cuts, and even loses the seal, which was the occasion I had it laid amongst my papers, and did not carry it about me.

"I hope you'll make my good wishes and my blessing acceptable to His Majesty, and pardon this trouble, which with an offer of my service, which at present is not worth while of offering, yet you'll be so good as to believe none can wish you better, nor have greater regard and respect for you than

"Dr Mr EDGAR,  
Your most affectionate, most humble, and  
obedient servant,

"(Signed) J. GORDON.  
"St Ouen, 21st August 1747."

A footnote is added: "Glenbucket died in June 1750."

That poor old Glenbucket's wishes were not disregarded is shown by the next two letters.

No. CXIX. of the series of "Stuart Papers" is a holograph letter from Prince Charles to the Chevalier de St George, dated "St Ouen, 2nd October 1747." It runs:—

"I have received yours of the 12th September, and have punctually obeyed your orders in regard of good Glenbucket, who is penetrated with your Majesty's gracious expressions and goodness for him. I take the liberty to send your Majesty in this packet a picture of mine just made by a skilful hand for this country, but do not think it comes up to those in Italy. My bust in marble will, I hope, be soon done, and is much admired for its being singularly like.

"(Signed) CHARLES P."

No. CXXII., also holograph, is from Mr Edgar to Gordon of Glenbucket:—

"Rome, 22 December 1747.

"The King sends to the Prince the duplicate you want of, your commission of Major-General. I find by His Majesty's book of entrys that the one lost was dated 28 January 1738, so the one now sent is of the same date; but you will

excuse its not being writ in parchment, on which I have never yet writ any commission of that kind."

Letter No. CXXIV. of same series is interesting as showing at least the desire of affording some aid to the distressed and exiled supporters of the Stuarts. It is headed "Etat des Gratifications proposers pour les Ecossoir." A few only out of 44 names and the amounts may be given here:—

Livres.	Livres.
" Le Lord Nairne, .. 2400	Le Chevalier Baronet
Mr Macdonald de	Murray, .. 1000
Clanranald, .. 1800	Louis Cameron de
Glengary L'Ainé, .. 1800	Torcastle, .. 1000
Le Chevalier Maclean, 1800	Cameron de Calart, .. 900
Gordon de Glenbuchet, 1500	Hebarn de Keit, .. 800
Jean Townle, .. 1200	Gordon de Dorletlivier
Olipphant de Gask, ..	(Dorlaithers), .. 800
senior, .. 1200	Lumisden, .. 600
Gask, junior, .. 1000	Gordon de Hahead, 1000
	Gordon de Coubardie, 600

Among some notes added at the end of the list we find—"on croit qu'il servit juste que Mr Gordon de Glenbucket eut 2000 livres au lieu de 1500 ayant servi en qualite de Marechal de Camp."

Paper No. CLXXIV. is an account current, Prince Charles with George Waters, junior, banker, Paris, from January 28 1748 to January 15 1749. It includes many disbursements made during that period, and has at the end a list of payments left out in former accounts to the amount of 12,800 livres. Among the payments here included are:—

To Gordon of Glenbuchet, 1300	} 2100 livres.
300	
200	
300	

With regard to Glenbucket's landed estates, it will be remembered that he was served heir to his father, John Gordon of Knockespock, in Over and Nether Knockespock and other lands. He seems to have been unable to keep these, and to have been obliged to sell them almost immediately to his kinsman, George Gordon, son of the laird of Auchline, a small neighbouring estate.

I suspect that Glenbucket was heavily burdened, and that he owned only part of the Glen. As an instance of the burdens, Patrick Barclay, alias Gordon of Rothiemay and Towie, was retoured heir of John G. of Rothiemay, his

father, in an annual rent of £104, corresponding to £2600, of the town and lands of Overtoun of Glenbucket and Fairntoul, within the parish of Glenbucket. E. 1d. *albae firmae*, 5 Oct. 1698. (Retours Special Aberdeenshire.)

In any case, although he retained the designation "of Glenbucket," he was attainted after taking part in the rising of 1715-16; and I am not aware that he was afterwards released from the effects.

I find among the letters produced in a long Process raised by Alexander Irvine of Drum and his curators for the setting aside the reduction of the entail of the Drum estates (the first entail recorded under the Act of 1685), in the latter part of the 18th century, one from Sir Alexander Cuming of Culter to Alexander Thomson of Portlethen, his doer, dated 7 July 1720, referring to proposed purchases of land; an extract from which has been already quoted. In the course of it he says: "As to Glenbucket, I hope Barns has concluded a bargain, for I do not desire to be consulted about the price. What you and he does I will stand to, though Glenbucket be his nephew." "Barns," of course, was James Gordon of Barns, son of Patrick Gordon of Badinscoth, "one of whose daughters married the laird of Knockespock (Gordon), of whom is come the present laird of Glenbucket; another married the Tutor of Glenbucket." (Balb. MS., the date of which is approximately 1725). See also Drum Process, p. 132.

Sir Alexander must have had further dealings about Glenbucket, for I find among the writs produced: "Disposition Sir Alexander Cuming to Barns of the lands of Glenbucket, dated 15 November 1723," with a declaration by Barns thereanent to be for behoof of George Middleton [Ibid, p. 178], and in an account between Sir Alexander and Drum, dated 10 November 1724: "A back-bond by James Gordon of Barns and declaration of Trust anent the lands of Glenbucket, dated 21 January 1725, obliging him to denude in favours of my Lady Cuming and children" [Ibid, p. 179]. In an account, dated 8 September 1721, between Sir Alexander and Alexander Thomson of money remitted to Aberdeen, occurs: "Per cash to Glenbucket per order and receipt, 29 July 1721, £96 0s. 8d."; and in another account, 30 January 1722, is an entry, "By £133 8s. 0d. Scots paid to Provost Stewart as one year's feu-duty of the lands of Glenbucket crop, 1721, per discharge, 29 Jan. 1722, £11 2s. 4d." [Ibid, p. 333.]

The last notes seem to imply that Glenbucket retained some interest, perhaps superiorities, in his estate up to about 1721. On the other hand, it seems probable that he was forfeited, along with many others, in 1716. I do not find his name in any list of prisoners, and presume that he escaped to the Continent.

Glenbucket was sold to Lord Braco in 1728.

The policy of the British Government in dealing with the Jacobites after defeating them will be seen from the following summary.

In Browne's *History of the Highlands*, Appendix to Vol. II., is given an anonymous letter from Mr Duncan Forbes to Sir Robert Walpole, from a copy extant in the Lord President's handwriting. This letter is supposed to have been written in August 1716. It is signed with initials "Y.Z." and marked "Culloden Papers. No. lxxxii, p. 61."

The whole tenor of it is a remonstrance against the measures taken by the Government respecting Scotland, as being "unnecessarily disobligeing to the King's friends, exasperating the disaffected, and in a particular manner ruinous to Scotland." In the course of it he says—"When the late Rebellion was happily ended by the Pretender's flight, his deluded followers found themselves all in chains, or obliged to surrender and sue for mercy, or fly their country with him." Further on he points out that the proper course would have been "to have punished only as many as was necessary for terror, and for weakening the strength of the rebels for the future; and to extend mercy to as many as it could conveniently be indulged to with the security of the Government." That in place of a course of this kind the method followed was—"1st, to try all the criminals in England; secondly, to detain in prison all those in custody in Scotland, except some who had interest with certain great men to obtain a previous pardon, to the manifest dishonour of the Government; thirdly, to attaint a vast number of Scots noblemen and gentlemen; fourthly, to put it out of His Majesty's power to grant any part of estates forfeited; and, fifthly, to appoint a Commission for enquiring and levying the rebels' goods and chattels." He next points out the exasperating effects of the above course.

He then refers to the improprieties and inconveniences of the Forfeiture Bill, as it affects creditors, adding that it would take too long to enter upon them; and further on says, "If this

forfeiting Bill was gone into when the danger was over from any other view than that of crushing this poor country, it must have been with the hopes of levying money for the public service."

He next proceeds to show that "the forfeitures in Scotland will scarce defray the charges of the Commission, if the saving clause in favour of the creditors take place," mentioning "that of all the gentlemen who launched into the late Rebellion, the tenth man was not easy in his circumstances; and if you abate a dozen gentlemen, the remainder upon paying their debts could not produce much money clear."

Further, he mentions, "It's known that the titles by which almost all the estates in Scotland are possessed are diligences upon debts affecting those estates purchased in the proprietor's own name, or in that of some trustees. Now, it's certain that when the Commissioners of enquiry began to seize such estates, besides the debts truly due to real creditors, such a number of latent debts will be trumped up, not distinguishable from the true ones by any one else than the proprietor, as will make the enquiry fruitless, and the Commission a charge upon the Treasury, as well as a nuisance to the nation."

Hence he argues "that the forfeited estates are in themselves inconsiderable; and that they are good for little or nothing to any others except the owners." He deprecates for the sake of a trifle stirring up a disaffection in the nation.

Looking to the terrible effects of the forfeiting bill, and admitting the necessity for not letting rebellion go unpunished, he advocates only such a measure thereof as would be necessary for the security of the Government, and to deter others from similar attempts, viz., for example:

1st. Let the most leading, most powerful, and most malicious of the rebels be pitched upon and executed if in custody, if not their estates to be forfeited for ever.

2ndly. Let an Indemnity, by Act of Parliament, be published to all (excepting such as His Majesty shall think fit), who shall surrender against a certain day and at a certain place, and there to have their names recorded.

3rdly. Let those persons be only entitled to pardon and to their estates upon their finding bail (1) for good behaviour; (2) as to not meddling in public business, elections, &c.; (3) as to their presenting themselves once or oftener a year at Edinburgh, or when His Majesty

should think fit, to answer any charge brought against them; and (4) that they should neither wear arms, nor converse with one another, nor go without their respective counties without license under several penalties.

The letter is a very long one, very interesting, and framed in a sensible, moderate spirit. It was written, too, after an Act of attainder against the Earl of Mar, the Marquis of Tullibardine, the Earl of Linlithgow, Lord Drummond, and other leaders had received the Royal assent on 17 February preceding; also another Act of Attainder against the Earl Marischal, Seaforth, Southesk, and Panmure, and others had received the King's sanction on 7th May; and further a bill attainting Mr Forster and Brigadier Mackintosh, and another, for more effectually securing the peace of the Highlands, and a third appointing Commissioners to enquire into the estates of those persons who had been attainted or convicted, had passed.

It was this last Act that called forth Duncan Forbes's remonstrance, dated September of same year.

I think there can be no doubt that Glenbucket was one of those attainted or excepted from any relief, and that if any offer was made on the terms suggested by Duncan Forbes, he would not have accepted it. I think it probable that Glenbucket remained continuously abroad from 1716, but his wife and family may have lived at Kamdelmore or at St Bridge's, near Tomintoul; and after the lapse of many years he may have joined them before 1745.

He retained all along his designation "of Glenbucket." We have seen that in 1738 a Major-General's commission was given to him; and an account between Sir Alex. Cuming and Alex. Thomson, his agent, shows that the latter paid Glenbucket in 1721 £96 0s. 8d., presumably owing to his having been in some way still laird of Glenbucket. The part he took in 1745-6 has been already briefly described, and his own pathetic letter written from St Ouen in 1747, tells all that he went through and suffered in his old age. The foot-note to the letter gives the date of his death as June 1750. He was the last of perhaps the third Gordons of Knockespock.

THE GORDONS OF KNOCKESPICK.

PERHAPS FOURTH LINE.

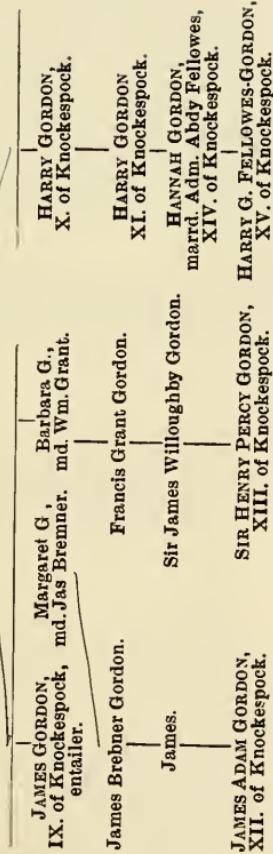
*Descent.*

WILLIAM GORDON, 3rd Laird of Terpersie.

HARRY GORDON of Auchline, 5th son.

GEORGE GORDON, = 1. Marjory Moir.

VIII. of Knockespock, = 2. Jean Leith.  
2nd son of Harry.



## GEORGE GORDON, VIII. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

GEORGE GORDON, VIII. of Knockespock, acquired that estate by purchase from his kinsman, John Gordon of Knockespock, in or about 1705. (Knockespock Family Pedigree in possession of the present laird.)

This George Gordon belonged to a different branch of the Gordons, being the second son of Harry Gordon of Auchlyne, who was the fifth son of William Gordon, third laird of Terpersie, a cadet of Lesmoir. Harry Gordon acquired various lands in the parish of Clatt, and left Auchlyne to James, his eldest son; but George apparently got some of said lands, and found means to purchase the lands of Knockespock, as possessed by John Gordon of Knockespock under his service as heir to his father therein in January 1705. The blood relationship appears to me to have been through the marriage of the daughter of Patrick Gordon of Badinscot (who was of the Terpersie family) with a Gordon of the Glenbucket family.

George Gordon, son of Harry of Auchlyne, and laird of Knockespock, married twice, viz.:—

*First*, Marjory, daughter of Dr Moir of Scots-town, by whom he had issue:—

1. James, afterwards 9th laird of Knockespock, who made an entail of the estate.
2. Margaret, who married James Brebner, in Towie of Clatt, whose descendant became 12th laird under the entail.
3. Barbara, who married William Grant from Strathspey. She died before 1770, and her descendant became 13th laird under the entail.

*Secondly*, in 1720, Jean, daughter of Patrick Leith of Harthill, by whom he had 3 sons and 1 daughter, viz.:—

1. Harry, who became a Colonel in the Royal Engineers, and succeeded as 10th laird under the entail made by his half-brother, James.
2. George, married in Jamaica. He and his heirs were excluded from succession under the entail.
3. Patrick or Peter, who was killed in a duel in Grenada, and buried in Clatt.
4. Jean, died unmarried. The song, “My bonnie Jean,” composed in her honour.

George Gordon, son of Harry of Auchlyne, seems to have led a very quiet life. His

marriage to his second wife is said to be recorded in local Register. (Dr Davidson's "Inoiric, &c.," p. 462.) Although a younger son, he appears to have had considerable means, with which he purchased the estate of Knockespock from his kinsman, John Gordon of Glenbucket, 23 March 1705. (Knockespock Family Pedigree) Probably the lands were pretty heavily burdened.

There is a legend that the life of this laird was saved by the devotion of his second wife, Jean Leith, a lady celebrated for her beauty, and who belonged to a family noted for their high spirit. "When he was laid on a bed of sickness, she tended him with the most affectionate care, till one night, overcome by fatigue, she fell asleep beside him, and was awakened only to find that the mansion of Knockespock was in flames. All the servants had fled, and no assistance was near. Losing not a moment she carried her suffering husband from the burning house, and, laying him in a sheltered spot, returned through the flames at the greatest danger to herself for plaids and other coverings to wrap him from the cold. This affecting incident forms the subject of a ballad, entitled 'Knockespock's Lady,' and a poem by William Thom, the weaver poet of Inverurie." (Aerson's Scott. Nation, Vol. I., p. 321.)

It is recorded that this laird was buried in Clatt.

#### JAMES GORDON IX. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

JAMES GORDON, eldest and the only son of his father by his first marriage, succeeded to Knockespock as 9th laird.

He went to the West Indies, no doubt as a "Planter," and prospered. He invested money both in the West Indies and in Great Britain. He is generally described as "of St Kitts." He purchased Grenada in 1751, and subsequently Moorpark, in Hertfordshire, and also Auchlyne (adjoining Knockespock) from his relative, James, who had succeeded his grandfather. James Gordon of Auchlyne and Newbigging, on the death of the latter in 1729 (his own father, James, younger of Auchlyne, having predeceased his father in 1721).

James Gordon, the grandfather, was served heir special to his father, Henry Gordon of Auchlyne, who died May 1707, in Auchlyne, Clatt, Newbigging, Rindriggs, &c., Aberdeenshire, 18 Dec. 1713 (Dccenn. Retours):

and James Gordon of Auchlyne was served heir to his grandfather, James G. of Auchlyne, Heir of Provision General, 10 August 1733.

The first James of Auchlyne was the eldest son of Harry G. of Auchlyne, and elder brother of George, who acquired Knockespock. James, younger of Auchlyne, who predeceased his father in 1721, was second son of the latter, and his elder brother was Alexander, who is mentioned in one of the "Historical Papers relating to the Jacobite Period, 1699-1750," edited by Colonel Allardyce, where he lays claim to a curious distinction:—

"Petition by Alexander Gordon, younger of Auchlyne, 1715, stating that he had been thryce imprisoned by the rebels; and further that he was the only gentleman of the name of Gordon, and of all the county of Aberdeen, who by his counsell and example encouraged the people to be firm to His Majesty, &c., &c." (Hist. Papers, &c., Vol. I., p. 60.)

James Gordon of St Kitts, later of Knockespock and other properties, married Mary, daughter of Patrick Herron, but had no issue. Besides the purchases of lands already mentioned, he acquired the adjoining property of Terpersie, forfeited a few years before by Charles Gordon of Terpersie (who was executed at Carlisle in 1746), being himself the grandson of Harry Gordon of Auchlyne, who was the 5th son of William Gordon of Terpersie. I have understood that this purchase was made from the Commissioners on the forfeited estates.

James of Knockespock, executed an entail of that estate, which was in favour of (1) his half-brother, Colonel Harry Gordon, Royal Engineers, and the heirs *male* of his body; (2) failing such in favour of heirs *male* of the body of his elder *full* sister, Margaret, who married James Brebner of Towie, in Clatt, whose son assumed the name of Gordon, and whose great-grandson, James Adam Gordon, came into the succession in 1836, on the failure of heirs *male* of the body of Colonel Harry Gordon, of the Royal Engineers; (3) failing heirs *male* of the body of Margaret Gordon, the said entail was in favour of the heir male of the body of Barbara, the entailer's younger *full* sister, who married William Grant from Strathspey, whose son, Captain Francis Grant, R.N., assumed the additional name of Gordon in 1768. In consequence of this, as James Adam Gordon, on his death

in 1854 left no issue, the succession opened to Sir Henry Percy Gordon, Bart., great-grandson of Barbara Gordon, Mrs Grant; and on Sir Henry's death without male issue in 1876, (4) another provision applied, and the succession opened to an heir *female* of the body of Colonel Harry Gordon, the half-brother of the entailor, who was the first heir to succeed to the entailor himself. This lady was Hannah Gordon, daughter of Harry Gordon of Knockespock, R.E., and grand-daughter of Colonel Harry Gordon of Knockespock.

Some provision, however seems to have been made either under the entail or by some deed for the issue of the entailor's two sisters, Margaret and Barbara.

The following is the service of "James Gordon (formerly Brebner), Chief Judge of Grenada, to his uncle, James Gordon of Knockespock, who died — April 1768, heir portioner of line special in Auchlyne, Newbigging, Knockespock, Terpersey, and fishings in the Don, Aberdeenshire," 7 March 1770 (Decennial Retours).

Service of Francois Gordon, formerly Grant, Commander, R.N., to his uncle, James Gordon of Knockespock, who died — April 1768, "Heir portioner and of line special in Auchlyne, Newbigging, Knockespock, Terpersey, &c., and in fishings in the Don, Aberdeenshire," 7 March 1770 (Decennial Retours).

James Gordon, formerly of St Kitts, having acquired a large estate, now all included under the name of Knockespock, and executed an entail thereof in 1767, died without issue in April 1768 (see Decenn. Retours above).

## HARRY GORDON, X. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

HARRY GORDON, eldest son by his second marriage of George Gordon of Knockespock and Jean Leith, his spouse, succeeded his half-brother, under the entail made by the latter, as 10th laird in or about 1768.

He married a lady named Hannah Meredith, being an officer in the Royal Engineers, serving in America. By her he had 4 sons and 2 daughters, viz. :—

1. Peter, b. 1759, drowned in Grenada 1787.
2. Harry, b. 1761, who succeeded his father as laird of Knockespock.
3. James, b. 1763. A barrister, died unmarried in 1831.
4. Adam, b. —. A major-general in the British Army, Colonel of the 67th Regiment, died in 1815 at Stonehive (Stonehaven). —
5. Jane, died in infancy.
6. Hannah, died unmarried in 1827.

The two following letters refer to this laird, when a young man. They are given in "The Culloden Papers" :—

The first is from Sir Andrew Mitchell to the Lord President, and is dated Whitehall, 23rd October 1745—

1. "Mr James Gordon, of St Christophers, a very particular friend of mine, desires me to mention his brother, Harry, to your Lo'p, in case there is still room to give him a commission in the Independent Companies. He tells me he can get men. The young gentleman has a good character, and has made a campaign. If it does not interfere with yr Lo'p's views, the serving this gentleman will much oblige, your mo. affecte., Andrew Mitchell.

"Mr Gordon proposes to send his brother to Scotland as soon as he arrives from Flanders."

2. Extract from a letter from the Lord President to Sir A. Mitchell, dated 22 Dec. 1745:—

"Dear Sir,—I have had your packet by the "Hound" sloop, deliver'd to me by Mr Gordon, and I have had since his arrival a letter from you and another from *his* brother, recommending him to my care. . . . As to Mr Gordon, who seems to be a pretty young man, he may be sure of my best offices." The Lord President then explains that "the arrangements for rais-

ing Independent Companies and giving commissions on the nomination of well-affected Chiefs, who could raise the men forthwith, prevented giving *him* a Company ; but he had recommended him in the strongest manner to Lord Loudoun, whom he would attend in the remainder of this ill-flavoured campaign."

With regard to "the arrangements made for raising Independent Companies," &c., it may be mentioned that Sir Andrew Mitchell wrote to the Lord President from Whitehall on 5 Sept. 1745, that "it has been thought proper at this juncture to raise twenty Independent Companies in the Highlands, and your Lo'p is the person pitched upon to choose the officers." (Culloden Papers, No. cclxvi.)

Also there is a list of officers, captains, lieutenants, and ensigns (one of each rank to each Company) of 18 Companies, with dates of commissions between 23 October 1745 and 2 February 1746 in a letter from Duncan Forbes of Culloden to Mr George Ross [probably of Pitcalnie], dated Inverness, 13 May 1746 (Culloden Papers, No. cccxviii.), which shows that most of these commissions must have been granted before the Lord President wrote in reply to Sir Andrew Mitchell.

The letters given above can refer only to Harry Gordon, half-brother of James Gordon of St Kilts, and afterwards a Colonel, Royal Engineers, and laird of Knockespock. Whether he got a commission in Loudoun's regiment before it was reduced in June 1743 or not I cannot say ; but it is probable enough that the good offices of Sir Andrew Mitchell and the Lord President helped him to get into the Royal Engineers. No doubt he served his country during part of the American War.

I have found his name as an Engineer, ranking as Captain in an Army List, given in Edinburgh Almanack for 1767—pay 10s. per diem ; in same rank in 1774 ; as a sub-director with rank of Major, at 15s. per diem, in an Almanack for 1782 ; the second senior out of four ; as a Colonel Commandant, fourth senior, at 17s. per diem, in one for 1785 ; and as third senior in one for 1787.

His career was cut short suddenly. He was drowned, along with his eldest son, Peter, while crossing a river in flood in Grenada, soon after 16th August 1787.

## HARRY GORDON, XI. OF KNOCKESPICK.

HARRY GORDON, 11th laird of Knockespock, succeeded his father in 1787.

He married Ann, daughter of George Carnegie of Pitarrow, Kincardineshire, and Charlton, Forfarshire, and by her had two children, viz.:

1. Hannah, who many years after her father's death, came into possession of Knockespock under the entail mentioned above.
2. James, who died in infancy.

This laird like his father, served as an officer in the Army, probably in the Hon. East India Company's service.

A Harry Gordon got his first commission in the Madras Army, 6 July 1778; Lieutenant, 8 March 1782; and resigned in 1788, on account of ill-health. Harry Gordon as a young man served in India, and in the war between the British and Hyder Ali in the Carnatic. He was taken prisoner when Colonel Baillie was overwhelmed and defeated by Tippoo Sahib in 1780, and was carried about for a year in a cage, along with Lieutenant Baird (afterwards Sir David Baird.) It seems probable that this Ensign Harry Gordon of 1778 was afterwards "Harry G. of Knockespock."

He had a very long tenure of the family estate, from 1787 to 1836; and it is probable that his succession as laird had something to do with his retiring from the Army, as well as his ill-health from privations and climate. He made extensive additions to the mansion-house, and planted a large acreage with forest trees.

He was survived by his daughter, Hannah, who did not succeed to the family estate till forty years afterwards.

JAMES ADAM GORDON, XII. OF  
KNOCKESPOCK.

JAMES ADAM GORDON was the next and 12th laird, being a male heir, and the great-grandson of Margaret Gordon, elder and full sister of the entailor, by her husband, James Brebner of Towie, in Clatt. Their son, James Brebner, b. 1724, had assumed the additional name of Gordon, and was owner of Moor Place, in Hertfordshire. He married Jane [or Ann] Lavington, and had a son, James Gordon, and a daughter, Mary.

The James, last mentioned, was of Moor Place, and had other property in England. He was M.P. successively for Stockbridge, Truro, and Clitheroe. He married Harriet, daughter of Samuel Whitbread, M.P., in 1789, and had a son, James Adam Gordon, who was laird of Knockespock 1836-1854, and three daughters—Mary, Ann, and Jane. James and his wife, Harriet, both died apparently in 1832.

Mary, the sister of James Gordon of Moor Place, married Sir William Abdy in 1777. Her daughter, Catherine, married Admiral Sir Thomas Fellowes, and was the mother of Captain William Abdy Fellowes, afterwards Admiral Fellowes, R.N., who married his kinswoman, Hannah Gordon, afterwards of Knockespock, only daughter of Harry Gordon of Knockespock and Ann Carnegie. Hannah became the mother of Captain Fellowes-Gordon, the present laird.

James Adam Gordon was born 16 April 1791, and married Emma Katharine, daughter of Vice-Admiral Wolley, but he had no issue. He was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for the counties of Somerset, Hertford, and Bedford, and after his succession to the Knockespock estate for Aberdeenshire also. He was for a time M.P. for Tregony, one of the small boroughs disfranchised under the Reform Bill of 1832, of which place he was Recorder. In 1830 he served as High Sheriff of Somersetshire.

The arms borne by Gordons of Knockespock varied at different periods. Mention has been made of those used in 1632. The arms of Gordon of Knockespock are given in Sir James Balfour Paul's "Ordinary of Arms," 1st edition, as, "*Azure a pheon between three boars' heads erased or.*" I have learned that they were sent in to be recorded at the Lyon Office about 1672-8.

The same arms are given without a date for Gordon of Cairnfield, who was no doubt of Buckie descent; but the arms of Gordon of Buckie are not given there.

In Robson's Heraldry the arms of Gordon of Knockespock are given the same as in the "Ordinary of Arms," but no date; but here there is added, "Crest—a stag's head, ppr. attired *or*. Motto—"Dum vigilo tutus."

Whether James Adam Gordon ever used these last or not I cannot say, but I think not. In Burke's Landed Gentry, he is said to have borne quarterly 1st and 4th *azure* on a fesse chequy *arg.*, and *gules* between 3 boars' heads a lion passant guardant for Gordon, and 2nd and 3rd *argent*, a saltire, *azure*, on a chief of the last, 3 boars' heads of the *first* for Lavington.

*Crests*—1st, a stag's head erased *proper* attired *or*; 2nd, a stag at gaze, *proper*.

These bearings appear to be in virtue of his descent from Gordon of Terpersie, and to be correct. Two mottoes are here given—"Non frande sed laude," and "Dum vigilo tutus."

Captain Fellowes Gordon has now at Knockespock an old silver salver, in which is engraved a coat of arms, viz.: On a fess chequy between three boars' heads a lion passant guardant, and crest a stag's head. [These are presumably Terpersie arms.] Below the shield the motto, "Non frande sed laude."

In Robson's Heraldry the arms of Gordon of Terpersie are given as, "Azure a lion passant guardant *argent* between three boars' heads erased *or*. Crest, a hart at gaze, *ppr.* Motto, "Non frande sed laude." The same arms are given in Sir James Balfour Paul's "Ordinary of Arms."

Any arms I can find of Gordon of Glenbucket are quite different. In the "Ordinary of Arms" we find them given as, "Azure a saltire between three boars' heads erased *or*, within a bordure countercompany of the *second* and *first*"; but again there is no date, one cannot tell which Glenbucket's.

In Robson's Heraldry the arms of Gordon of Glenbucket are the same as the above, with the exception that the commencement reads, "Azure a chevron," instead of *Azure* a saltire." This looks rather like a cadet of Cairnborrow. The arms may be those of the earliest Gordons of Glenbucket.

But again the arms of the Gordons of Park given in the "Ordinary of Arms" without date

[but probably about 1672-80], are: “*Azure, a dexter hand, vambraced, and grasping a sword erected in pale *argent*, hilted and pommelled, or, between three boars' heads, couped of the third, and langued *gules**

The above really affords no assistance. Further, I cannot find any information relative to the arms borne by Gordon of Blelack, from whom, I suppose, George Gordon of Noth, ancestor of the second line of Knockespock, to have been descended.

James Adam Gordon, XII. of Knockespock, died on 4th March 1854, without issue.

SIR HENRY PERCY GORDON, XIII.  
OF KNOCKESPOCK.

SIR HENRY PERCY GORDON, Bart. of Northcourt, Isle of Wight, was the next and 13th laird of Knockespock. He succeeded under the entail, the details of which have been given above, being the great-grandson of Barbara Gordon by her husband, William Grant. Their son, Francis Grant, Captain, R.N., took the additional name of Gordon, married, and had a son Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart., G.C.B., Qr. Mr.-General of the Forces, a distinguished officer, who married Julia Bennet, daughter of R. H. A. Bennet, Esq. of Beckenham, Kent, and first cousin of the Duke of Northumberland, with issue, Sir Henry Percy Gordon, Bart.

Sir Henry married Lady Mary Ashburnham, daughter of the 3rd Earl of Ashburnham. He left issue a daughter, Mary, who married General Disney Leith of Glenkindie, and had issue 2 sons and 5 daughters.

He died very suddenly at Blackhall, in Kincardineshire, in 1876.

HANNAH GORDON (MRS FELLOWES-GORDON)  
XIV. OF KNOCKESPOCK.

HANNAH GORDON succeeded as 14th proprietor of Knockespock, being heiress under the above-mentioned entail, as the daughter of Harry Gordon, an officer of the Army, the 12th laird, who died in 1836, male heirs descended from females having been meantime preferred.

She married Captain (afterwards Admiral) Abdy-Fellowes, R.N., and had issue:—

1. Harry Fellowes-Gordon, who succeeded her
2. Annie, died young.
3. Blanche, married Colonel Rowan-Hamilton.
4. Arthur, married Beatrice, daughter of John Green, Esq., 46, Princes Gate, London, S.W.

Mrs Fellowes resumed the name of Gordon, after that of Fellowes, on her succession to the estate.

She died in 1897.

HARRY FELLOWES-GORDON, XV. OF  
KNOCKESPOCK.

HARRY GORDON FELLOWES-GORDON succeeded his mother as 15th laird of Knockespock.

He married, in 1882, Millicent, daughter of Fitzgerald Blood of Ballykilty, Co. Clare, J.P., and had issue:—

1. Harry, b. 1881.
2. Marjory, b. 1886.
3. Douglas Arthur, b. —, died young.
4. Gladys, b. 1892.
5. Charles, b. 1896.

This laird served some years in the 76th, or 2nd Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, and subsequently as a Captain in the 3rd Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders.

During his mother's time he took a large share in the management and improvement of the estate, including a very considerable addition to the mansion-house, where he resides during a great part of every year.







